The
Kinematograph & Lantern Weekly.

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Optical Science, Kinematography & Photographic Art

In connection with the Exhibition of the above to be held at the **CRYSTAL PALACE, commencing JULY 17th next,** the **ADVISORY COMMITTEE** which will elect the **COMMITTEE of ADJUDICATION,** is now being formed.

Gentlemen desirous of joining same, should address—

Brown & Bernard, Ltd., Westinghouse Buildings, Norfolk St., Strand, W.C.

Telephone 1801 Gerrard

The Convention in England.

That there is still plenty of vitality in the Convention of Film Makers was evidenced by the meeting of the British Committee last week. The business was mainly formal, the meeting having been called to learn officially the result of the last meeting in Paris. Mr. Paul having resigned the Secretaryship of the British Committee, Mr. E. H. Bishop was elected in his place; it was left to the Executive to arrange for a meeting with the Trade Protection Society for a discussion of general trade conditions (a schedule of hire rates for films of course finds no place in the amended convention).

The meeting also agreed to use all possible means of a friendly nature to induce those members who recently left the Convention to return, and it was reported that those Continental makers who had agreed to withdraw their agencies from the English firms at present holding them, unless the latter were members of the Convention, had done so. Confirmation of this reaches us from Messrs. Williamson, who announce that they have received the following letter from the Societe Anonima Fabbricazone Films Italiana Luca Comerio:—

> After the arrival of our President Mr. Bollardi from Paris, we have to inform you that the Convention of Paris, will continue till next year and that the same imposes us the obligation to be represented only by a firm which has agreed to the conditions and which belongs to it. We are therefore very sorry to let you know that we have to renounce the pleasure of being represented by you for England and America.

This undoubtedly marks the opening of hostilities between the Convention members and those who had seceded from, or never belonged to, the Convention. We are led to the belief that the step of withdrawing agencies has been taken primarily with an idea of bringing back to the Convention those firms who recently resigned it, but that the withdrawal will be absolute except in the event of the agents re-joining. Pressure is also likely to be exerted, we understand, by means of the Continental firms who have so far acted as agents for English firms, and who will in future refuse to handle the goods of any but Convention makers—a step which may lead one or two English firms to seek new representatives abroad, not a simple matter when it is remembered that most of the chief firms in all the Continental countries are members of the Convention.

Manufacturers of films who are not at present members of the Convention have yet time to join, the only important conditions necessary to membership being proof of existence as manufacturers prior to April 15th.

The news from Paris that all the French manufacturers, with the exception of Pathé, have met and agreed unanimously not to combine with any firm outside the Convention for the purpose of hiring films may be taken to express the members' determination to isolate the firm of Pathé now that they have left the Convention.

The new rules of the Convention, adopted as a result of the last Paris meeting, were summarised in our last issue, and an inspection of the full agreement reveals no new point of interest to any but the manufacturers concerned. It may, however, be of interest to repeat briefly those provisions which affect the film buyers, and an unbiassed inspection of these will, we believe, lead our renters and exhibitors to acknowledge that the amended conditions of the Convention contain nothing contrary to their interests. The schedule of hire rates, which caused so much feeling, has been entirely abandoned, and the agreement as it stands is practically little more than an agreement to maintain price.

Films will be sold at 4d. per foot in England, with an extra charge for tinting and colouring, and this price will

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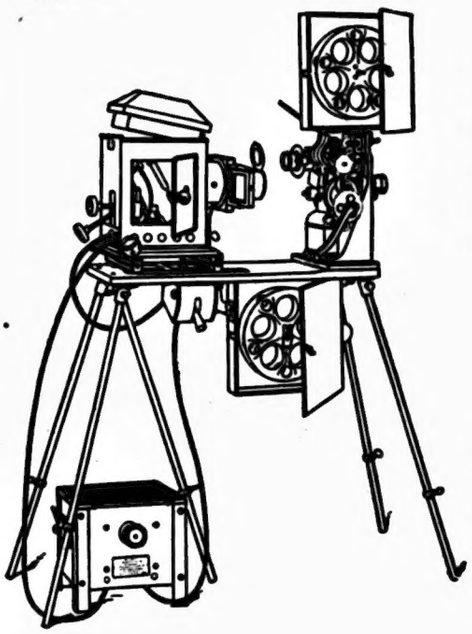
Underwriter's Model

PROJECTING KINETOSCOPE

Type B. **One-Pin Movement.**



IMPROVED **Take-up, Rheostat, Automatic Shutter, Revolving Shutter, Arc Lamp, Adjustable Stand, Metal Cabinet, Film Guard, Film Protector, Motion Picture Lens, Metal Slide Carrier, Film Re-winder, Steel Faced Fibre Gears, Star Wheel, Cam, Cam Pin, Shaft, Sprockets, Steel Mitre Gears.**

The Exhibitor

Who uses an Edison Kinetoscope need not fear competition. Its safety, simplicity and low operating cost, with brilliant results, give those who use it a decided advantage.

Write for Descriptive Booklet.

EDISON FILMS

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BRITISH MUSEUM

be nett, except in the case of goods paid for on the day of delivery, when 2½ per cent. discount will be allowed. After October 1st, Convention makers will print the name of the film, the Convention mark, and a roman figure indicating the date of issue, on both edges of their films. Each title will bear a design with the letters I.E.F. (International Editors of Films). These provisions are, of course, as much to the interest of the buyer as of the maker, inasmuch as the former will be enabled to see at a glance the age of any film offered him.

After May 1st, no film, whatever its date of issue, must be sold at less than 4d. per foot. The only other provision affecting the buyer is that with reference to approval, which is limited to 48 hours, exclusive of the time occupied in transportation. It is also provided that films sent "on appro" must not be exhibited to a paying audience.

It will be seen that these proposals contain nothing prejudicial to the interests of either renters or showmen, and when the meeting between the manufacturers and their clients takes place, we confidently anticipate an amicable arrangement which will have a permanent good effect on the industry.

Pathe Frere's New Manager.

MR. LOUIS SOLENNE.

The trade has naturally been much interested in the important change which has taken place in the management of the London office of Pathé Frères, Ltd., at 31, Charing Cross Road, due to the retirement of Mr. C. Ivatts, who for so many years had control of the firm's movements in this country.

Our readers will see from the photo accompanying this notice that the destinies of the firm in this country will be carefully watched by a comparatively young man, but at the same time a shrewd, capable, and keen manager.

Mr. Solenne, who takes up the management reins, has for about four years been connected with the firm, and has had the advantage of gaining knowledge in every department of the firm's huge business, which will now play him in good stead, as it will enable him to organise every department so that customers may have the best possible services of the firm's well-known productions. He has a splendid knowledge of up-to-date methods which he obtained in America, and as he speaks English very readily will have little difficulty in grasping every possible situation connected with the trade.

In a chat at our offices this week we tried to obtain knowledge of the firm's future movements regarding selling and hiring.

"You may take it from me," said Mr. Solenne, "that we shall just carry on our film business in the manner which will be best suited to the requirements of our market. Pathé Frères will only too gratefully consider any suggestion which may be made to them, but I think we shall continue to sell our productions without any restriction."

"And not rent?" we enquired.

"My instructions are to sell, and my idea of selling is to act straight and in a business-like manner and thus further enhance the reputation and increase the trade for which we are famous."

"But what is your private opinion of renting—will it continue?" we persisted in asking.

"Renting in England seems to me inevitable under present conditions, and as long as the renter is not led into competitive cutting in prices and is compelled to use only comparatively new productions, I see no objection to his existence, but some controlling influence is certainly needed to prevent him taking advantage of low quality and worn out films and providing spools of the worst type at a ridiculous rental. With regard to price, I have a scheme which should prevent any difficulty in that direction. There is certainly a brighter outlook at the present time and I hope, in a weekly bulletin I intend to issue, to keep personally in touch with the trade and do my utmost to show that Pathé Frères intend by example to maintain their prestige and reputation."

RALPH F. RUTTLEY

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The Hall Mark **Empire** of Quality,

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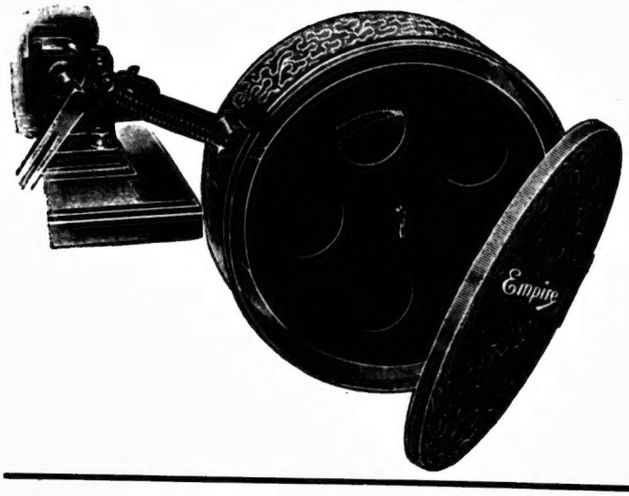

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ADJUSTABLE ROLLERS.

No objectionable Traps or Springs to scratch the Film.

The perfect spool box—absolutely fireproof.

Can be easily attached to any Projector.

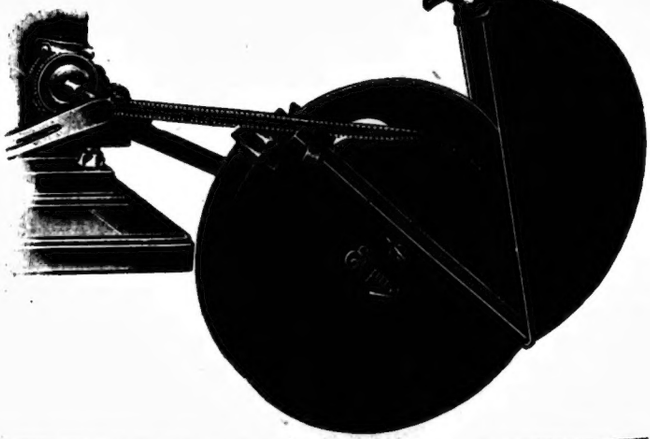
Well made in Alominom.

Price 30/- each.

The NEW COMBINATION SPOOL and FIREPROOF CASE (Patent applied for).

The ONLY Real Fire Preventer.

Films protected whether in use or not. . .



Used in place of the ordinary spool.

Re-threading in the event of a break just as simple.

Write for full particulars.

N.B.—At no time during any Exhibition will the Film be exposed to danger.

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The Latest from Paris.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

April 26th.

More About the Convention.

In the chain forged by the signatories of the Paris Convention everyone regrets the "missing links"—especially the one which may be termed the *compulsory link*. Who will guard us from the temptation of breaking Congress decisions if interest so invites us? "The Conventions put us under obligations to do what they prescribe, not under coercion, in any case, even if coercion is needed." This link is entirely missing, though proposed in more than one form during the meetings. Another link was the "money deposit system," originated, we think, in our country, and another the "blank cheque system" proposed by some French signatories. Another ingenious system appeared in the form of a clever assimilation of such a breach of Convention to what is termed in France "concurrence déloyale" (see Art. VII. of the propositions made to the Congress by Mr. Bernheim of the Lion Film Co.) This is a capital link in the chain if needed for its continuity. Others are of less compulsory nature but hard to forge definitely, and they have been kept in reserve, it appears, for future Conventions.

It must be understood that the Convention regulations will be carried out by Local Committees, under the supervision and with the advice if needed of a Central Committee, composed of two members for France, one for England, two for Germany and two for Italy. Certain power is given to these Committees, which are in a position to verify the sincerity of every affiliated concern in its observation of the rules, but they have no means to enforce these rules and regulations in case any signatory breaks the contract. Much remains to be done in the future, and one must not think the last Convention did only work within the limits of its decisions, which seem timid and unambitious; many propositions were made by members which were not passed by the majority.

We reproduce the Articles proposed to the Convention by Mr. Vandal, Director of the Eclair Co.:

I.—In an introductory note, Mr. Vandal states that the decisions of the first Convention, though aiming at a desirable betterment of the trade, were unacceptable to the clients, whose many claims were quite justified.

Then Mr. Vandal proceeds to develop two suggestions, one comprising the question of the return of films, the other imposing no condition of that sort but providing for the future:

1st.—Film will be sold in all countries 1.75 fr. per metre, plus 10 cents for tinting. The buyer will be obliged to give back, when ordering new film, an equal length of old film, which will be deducted from his bill on the basis of 50 cents per metre. But the difficulty will be to decide if a limit will be imposed for the age of the film taken back. If no limit is adopted 50 cents will be paid for very old and unacceptable film when it really has no value.

2nd.—The price of film to be 1.75 fr. per metre, plus 10 cents for tinting. When sold, this film will be perforated by the maker so as to carry the indication of its number and date of issue. The maker will engage himself to take back the film so marked for the price of 50 cents per metre within one year from the date of sale. If brought back after 18 months, said film will be taken back for 25 cents. Later it will not be accepted at all. This disposition to apply after a certain time allowed to the makers for getting rid of their stock. After this time the price will be uniformly fixed at 1.75 fr. per metre. The manufacturers will obtain from the Kodak Company to verify the books and see that the films are really sold at the said price.

The author is well aware of the fact that his proposal will meet with the objection of raising the price of film, and the capital expenses of the renter or exhibitor; but this evil is less than the evil of present film bargains at any price. Moreover a minimum renting price should be adopted, for both the renters and the renting manufacturers.

The following are the suggestions of M. Bernheim, of the Lion Co.:—

Article 1.—The Manufacturers will sell 1,75 per M. plus 50 Cs. for tinting.

Article 2.—Manufacturers engage themselves to take back used film of any origin, at the price of 50 Cs. per M. They however must not take back from the same client a greater length of used film than the length of new film sold to him.

Article 3.—There will be a Central Office, which under the supervision of the C.I.D.E.F., will take back the old film and deliver receipt for same. The bearer of this receipt will be credited by the vendor, who will sell him an equal quantity of new film.

Article 4.—Manufacturers must accept all used films, irrespective of its condition and its origin, up to the 30th of June, 1910.

After July 1st, 1910, Makers can no longer take back films of more than twelve months age. A Commission will fix the way to exactly date the films.

Article 5.—The renting Manufacturers must bring back every week a length of used film equal to the length of new films circulated in the same time. They must submit themselves to the verification of the C.I.D.E.F.

Article 6.—The February 2nd Conventions not contrary to these dispositions will be maintained.

Article 7.—Any infringement will be considered as "Concurrence déloyale."

The putting off of the discussion of these programmes means a postponement of the much needed solution to the crisis, only imperfectly averted by the dispositions adopted; yet a step has been made, and new steps may follow, with the benefit of experience gained and more perfect knowledge of the whole problem.

Aside from the Convention.

MR. MENDEL.

Among the manufacturers who were not present at the Convention was a well noted Parisian, Mr. Mendel, who professed very frankly to us, in a chat we had, that from the beginning he did not believe in imposing the return of films. When I pointed out to him that the Phono-Discs (Mr. Mendel is as noted in the phonograph trade as in the film trade) have been sold in this way, he stated that the principle was sound, but *should not be imposed*. Mr. Mendel wants to remain independent, and has no apprehension about the results of the Congress; he entertains no fear about the anticipated difficulties of buying the stock film, nor selling films to the foreign countries, mainly United States.

Advertising Screens.

Advertising screens are few and far between on the Boulevards, as well as in the rest of Paris and throughout France This is about to change if the prophecy made by Mr. Poch is realised. Such screens would bring fair returns to their owners if properly employed and preferably used during the day. Mr. Poch has patented in all countries, including England, a system of screen which will be described in a future number. He has proposed the formation of a company for the exploitation of "daylight projection." When we expressed surprise at the assigned capital of two millions, Mr. Poch gave us instances of present and future returns obtained from such screens. The well-known screen of the "Varieties" on the Boulevards brings to the owner from 60 to 300 francs per month, and the duration of the projection work is only 2 hours. With a daylight screen this duration would be considerably extended, and the returns of a screen, as figured by Mr. Poch, would reach 50,000 to 70,000 francs.

Fire at Raleigh & Roberts' Works.

The theatre of the Raleigh & Robert Co. 17 Av. du Roule, Neuilly, was burnt out this week, when fortunately no lives were lost or was any neighbouring propery destroyed. The buildings and machines were lost, but it is satisfactory to learn that the valuable negatives were saved. Raleigh & Robert have obtained the immediate assistance of some colleagues for keeping up full production with but a very short suspension of work.

PATHÉ FILMS

31-33 CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.

Telegraphic Address:
"PHONOFILM," London.

Telephones:
Nos. 3037 Central. 3239 Gerrard.

LATEST SUBJECTS

Code Word	No.	Title	Length	The Subject
Grive	2802	**The Eternal Romance**	790 feet	£19 15 0 Colouring 7 10 0
Gourde	2756	**Ralph Benefits by People's Curiosity**	297 feet	4 19 0 Colouring 1 10 0
Guimpe	2828	**The Lime Industry**	396 feet	6 12 0
Glycerine	2742	**Church Robbers**	560 feet	9 6 8 Toning 1 5 0
Gloire	2739	**Kind-Hearted Men**	314 feet	5 4 8 Toning 15 0
Guillemet	2826	**The Dinner of January 9th**	708 feet	17 14 0 Toning 2 0 0
Guenon	2814	**Married in Haste**	528 feet	8 16 0
Gui	2822	**Aviation has its surprises**	528 feet	8 16 0
Guigne	2825	**You like the poor, do you?**	330 feet	5 10 0
Guimauve	2827	**Manœuvring the Life-Boat**	428 feet	7 2 0 Toning 18 0
Grippe	2799	**The Animal's Friend**	230 feet	3 16 8

Works & Studios—Vincennes, Joinville le Pont, Montreuil s/Bois.

Branches—Brussels, New York, Berlin, Moscow, Vienna, Milan, Amsterdam, Calcutta Alexandria, Buenos Ayres, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico, Shanghai, Tokio, Sydney, Barcelona, Singapore.

Weekly Notes.

At the beginning of the year there was quite an epidemic of prize-fight films, which is now being gradually reduced in its severity. Pugilistic encounters are alright in their way, from the point of view of those who share the gate money or those fortunate individuals who have been able to take pictures and rent them at very big prices, but I am firmly convinced that the public have had quite sufficient from the moving picture view, and my advice to the manufacturer is that it is about time to give this subject a rest.

* * *

The next epidemic will be Films d'Art. All the makers seem to have struck it badly, and although the items have been carefully thought out, the scenic effects extravagantly provided, and every possible detail obtained to make the most perfect results, I am not entirely convinced that the public will stand too much of it. Shakespeare, history, and the classics have each been ransacked for subjects, and picked actors have been chosen who would truthfully portray the various characters; special scenery has been painted, and in many cases the camera has been at work at the places associated with the events. The results in most cases have been interesting, attractive and educational, but in many there have been just those little weaknesses which go so much to mar a fine production.

* * *

In Paris I had the opportunity of seeing several Films d'Art which will be put on the market during the next two or three weeks, and I know my readers will be surprised at these really wonderful creations, which they will soon have the opportunity of renting. I do not feel at liberty to betray the titles, but I know that there will be a very large demand for several of these new productions. There are one or two features which could, if added to these subjects, materially increase their value. In my opinion subjects such as these need a greater description either in the programme, in the announcement, or in the sub-titles. Historical stories that were instilled in our minds at school are apt to get somewhat mixed as years go along. Incidents of Antony and Cleopatra may get slightly jumbled with Napoleon and Josephine or Romeo and Juliet mistaken for The Corsican Brothers, and where subjects of this character are presented I feel that the story would have greater value, even with those who know it well, were it to be printed in a concentrated form either in the sub-titles at the beginning of each tableau or in a synopsis added to the programme.

* * *

At the Paris kinematograph shows the programmes are, indeed, works of art. Every film is described in an effective manner and those present are keen on reading the descriptions of the fare that is to be provided. These are well written and do not follow the text of the ordinary makers descriptive circular, with which I am frequently disgusted. I think it very important for every maker to have his descriptions carefully written, so that the exhibitors may utilise them in their programmes and add still further to the value of their shows, instead of making their circulars brief and uninteresting, and, in the majority of cases, very badly put together.

* * *

Talking of programmes, I was much struck by the programme issued at the Kinema Theatre Gab-ka on the Boulevard des Italiens. It consisted of twelve pages tied with ribbon in an embossed card cover. Inserted into the face of the cover was a small looking-glass and the back opened in such a way as to form a unique fan. The programme was on the centre pages and the other pages were taken up with the descriptions of the films to be shown. This little theatre, by the way, is one of the most handsome I was ever in. Looking-glasses, attractively inserted in the gold and yellow walls, were automatically covered with curtains just before the performance started by an attendant pulling a cord; handsome electroliers gave a rich appearance to the hall, which held 350 tip-up seats, and four officials in their smart uniforms gave just that touch of tone which made it "classy."

* * *

An orchestra of ten performers played really first-class music (including individual solos), and soprano, contralto, and baritone singers varied the performances with their songs. I was particularly struck, not only with the high-class character of the whole establishment, but by the heightened value of the pictures, owing to the effects produced by the orchestra—the roll of the drum, the thud of the steam engine, the whirl of the motor car, the cry of the victim of an accident, and the hundreds of other "noises" were timed with the pictures to a nicety and made such realistic impressions on those present that it was difficult to think we were watching pictures at all. I have always advocated effects and still urge our showmen to realise their value by adding them to their own productions.

* * *

Speaking of effects performed by the orchestra reminds me that we shall doubtless have a great improvement in the accompanying music to picture shows in the future. It is really painful to attend certain shows and hear an automatic piano grinding out most inappropriate music as a kind of accompaniment to the pictures. Either the management have no knowledge of music or do not realise the harm they are doing to their entertainments by such a penny wise and pound foolish policy. They should realise that high-class vocal items make a necessary break and relief to looking for two hours at the screen and that really good appropriate music accompanying the subjects adds doubly to their attractiveness.

* * *

Only this week I had a letter from a gentleman recognising the value and importance of our advertisements of entertainers and pianists for picture shows. He says, "descriptive pianists, in my opinion, are an absolute necessity. I have proved it both in small and large towns, in which I have accompanied the pictures with special and appropriate music, and I am glad to see you are now giving exhibitors a chance of obtaining them through your pages. I pride myself that I have chosen pieces from my large repertoire which fit the varying moods of the pictures. I know in London the question of music licenses is difficult and that the mechanical piano overbridges the difficulty, but I take it the new Act will make it possible for showmen to have really good music without 'endangering the public.'"

* * *

Good music—"one of God's best gifts to man"—should certainly be part and parcel of the picture show and I was pleased to have a chat with one of the directors of a company which has just been formed in Paris, which will hire out films with "roll perforated music," specially made appropriate to the subjects. Not only this but there will be a certain amount of synchronisation between the piano or orchestrion and the lantern. I am not at liberty to give too much away with regard to the propaganda of this company, but this, combined with another interesting scheme they are developing, should prove of interest to our showmen over here. Meanwhile, I again emphasise the importance of special music as a necessity for all kinematograph shows.

Telephones—834 City and 372 Central.
Telegrams—Filmograph, London

THE ARTOGRAPH CO.,
Film Dealers and Exporters,
8 NEW COMPTON STREET, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.
Opposite the Palace Theatre.
The Central Film Exchange. The London Film Clearing House.

Punchestown Steeplechases.

27th and 28th APRIL.

Special and exclusive facilities having been granted to us, we have made elaborate arrangements for securing a complete record of this great Irish Sporting Fixture.

Length about 400 feet **Code "Steeple"**

NOTE.—The above film will only be sold on condition that it be not exhibited within a two-mile radius of the Palace Theatre, London, during the time it forms part of the Urbanora Programme.

The Gota Canal and Trolhattan Falls, Sweden.

Superb panoramic views of the picturesque winding waterway which connects Gothenburg with Stockholm. Trolhattan Falls, the largest in Europe, are also depicted in all their majestic splendour, the mighty torrent churning the water below into an angry seething mass which dashes over the rocks in all directions, forming a really wonderful and awe-inspiring spectacle.

No. 2361 **Code "Gota"** **Length 255 feet** **(Tinted)** **Price £4 12 1 nett**

Logging in Norway.

Forest scenes of great winter beauty—Felling the Pine trees—Hauling logs to the great slides—Sliding the logs into the river which they enter with mighty splashes—Panorama of the river flanked by dense forests—Great expanse of water covered with logs to be made into rafts and taken to the nearest Port.

No. 2360 **Code "Log"** **Length 180 feet**
(Tinted) **Price £3 5 0 nett**

Scenes Around Piana.

A fascinating panorama of rugged mountains, valleys, gorges, defiles and fir-covered elevations, which, combined with intensely interesting scenes of native life and customs, make up a subject of unsurpassed beauty.

No. 3422 **Code "Piana"** **Length 410 feet**
(Tinted) **Price £7 8 1 nett**

The Perils of a Practical Joke.

A Comic with a Moral.

Unusual mirth-provoking situations, culminating, however, in a state of affairs that should provide serious thought for those who have a leaning towards that form of practical joking in which there often lurks an element of danger.

No. 3418 **Code "Dire"** **Length 520 feet**
(175 feet tinted) **Price £9 18 3 nett**

Scenes in Hamburg.

Characteristic illustrations of life in this ancient City with its traffic, public buildings, statues, promenades, rivers, canals, shipping, etc.

No. 2359 **Code "Hamburg"** **Length 175 feet**
(Tinted) **Price £3 3 3 nett.**

On the Banks of the Panuco, Mexico

The magnificent and perfectly photographed views afforded of this charming river and its romantic surroundings are certain to meet with universal appreciation.

No. 3411 **Code "Panuco"** **Length 230 feet**
(Tinted) **Price £4 3 1 nett**

Children Tobogganning in Switzerland.

Exuberant laughter is provided by the youngsters throughout this short film.

No. 2358 **Code "Young"** **Length 130 feet**
(Tinted) **Price £2 7 0 nett**

A Fatal Sneeze.

COMIC AND MAGIC.

A snuff-taking enthusiast is seized with a series of supernatural sneezing fits, causing vastly comic happenings, chiefly of a marvellous character, to all and sundry within range, the final blast resulting in a startling end to the afflicted person himself.

No. 56 **Code "Fatal"** **Length 285 feet**
(Tinted) **Price £5 2 11 nett**

PRICE 4d. PER FOOT NETT.

Tinting and Toning, 1d. extra per each Three Feet.

CHARLES URBAN TRADING CO., LTD.,

Kinematograph Specialists and Film Publishers,

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Distributing Branches in every Country.

Telegrams "Bioscope, London." Telephone: 3118 Central.

News and Notes.

Mr. Sydney Bacon

has secured the exclusive rights for taking pictures of the Great Pageant which takes place in the ancient city of York in July next.

Films Wanted for America.

Mr. B. R. Craycroft, manager of the Crescent Amusement Company, of 30, East 23rd Street, New York City, writes asking us to advise English manufacturers and dealers of their desire to obtain new and secondhand films direct from this country, and if dealers having lists will send same to them they will consider the advisability of doing business, as they have a large demand for English goods.

Is the Warwick Cinephone a Success?

This query seems to have been satisfactorily answered at Aberavon (South Wales) last week. There were four picture shows at the local fair and each one was making the Cinephone their special attraction. This speaks volumes for the Warwick machine. Mr. Smith informs us that new subjects are being prepared each week, and the demand increases daily. Showmen who want to be up-to-date cannot afford to be without the Cinephone, which is proving such a sound drawing artraction wherever it is shown.

More "Art" Films.

Following on the issue of the first of the Art Films of the Eclair and Itala Companies, duly noticed last week, comes the news that the Vitagraph Company of America have also a series of special films, of which the first has already made its appearance in the States, and which will shortly be published in England. These subjects which, judging from the first issue, seem likely to surpass in staging anything previously done by American firms, will be known as "High Art Films." Fuller particulars will be published at an early date.

The Safety Bioscope Company.

The old adage that "nothing succeeds like success" is being practically verified by the Safety Bioscope Company, who are removing to larger premises in order to meet the demands of their increasing business. The new premises consist of a detached building—No. 84, Southampton Road, Gospel Oak—and have the distinct advantage of being close to three important railways. These are the L. & N. W. and the Great Eastern at Gospel Oak Station and the Midland at Haverstock Hill Station. Further facilities will very shortly be afforded their customers by a quick service of electric trams and motor 'buses to Holborn and the West End.

The metamorphosis effected by the change from the old home at Parkhill Road to the new commodious building at Southampton Road, although only a stone's throw, so to speak, will present as gratifying a "moving picture" as Mr. W. D. Walker, the chief of the company, could desire to witness.

The Safety Bioscope Company, true to its title, and possibly with the best of apprehensions with regard to the Bill before Parliament, are bringing out a new bioscope for which is claimed perfect safety and absolute steadiness.

As this enterprising company has again secured the rights of showing on Sundays at the Whitechapel Pavilion, their new bioscope should prove a great acquisition in view of the attitude of the Lord Chamberlain toward the safety of the public.

This company has also another invention ready for the trade, which should have a great vogue. It is a folding re-winder for spools and films which can re-wind 1,500 feet of film per minute. Another good point about this winder is that it can be packed neatly and compactly in a small compass. If it prove as instantaneous a success as the company's latest novelty, the light and smoke-proof box, it will be another triumph to Mr. Walker.

Nordisk Coloured Films.

Congratulations will be generally extended to the Nordisk Films Company upon the advance in the artistic quality of their machine-coloured films—as evidenced in "The Brave Page Boy," which will be issued next week and which Mr. Landmann ran through for us a day or two ago. Considering that the method of colouring by mechanical means has only been in use for one or two months the effects (in obtaining which four distinct colours have been used) are distinctly good—the outdoor scenes with their varying tints of green being perhaps the most effective.

New Gaumont Agencies.

The Gaumont Company, Ltd., have been appointed sole British agents for the Aquila films, and they are putting out the first of a series of these films entitled "Balkanic Blood," which contains scenes of thrilling interest. In connection with the present trouble in the Balkans and Turkey it is singularly apropos, and is bound to be a great success when trouble is so prominent in Turkey. The Gaumont Company have also been appointed sole British agents for Messter's Projection Films, and they will shortly be issuing some very fine and interesting subjects of this make. Two just to hand are remarkably fine. One representing the German Imperial family at various sports in the snow and ice is one of the best things of its kind we have seen.

The Gem, Great Yarmouth.

This popular place of entertainment has been acquired by Mr. E. V. Barr, the well-known Yarmouth comedian, who has only recently won big favours at one or two of the leading London halls. Rumour had it that he had yielded to the tempting offers held out to him to accept a long engagement on the music hall stage. Several flattering reports appeared in the press, and Mr. Barr was assured that a very hearty welcome would be given to a man coming from a town which has already produced Miss Ruth Vincent and Mr. George Mozart. However, this rumour is not true, and Mr. Barr's many friends and admirers will be delighted to hear that he has been successful in acquiring the very handsome Gem Hall. The building is the very latest addition to Yarmouth's magnificent sea-front, and is extremely popular with visitors and residents aiike. The hall has been closed for alterations.

Living Pictures at Melbourne.

Business here continues very large, although competition is very keen. Every advertising scheme is tried to induce public support. In the case of one manager, who has lately started in the business at a large theatre in this city, the public generally were under the misapprehension that Pathé Freres had started as amusement caterers and some of the press went so far as to write of this gentleman as "general manager for Pathé Freres." The mistake was made owing to the "starring" in large type of the celebrated French firm's machine, which the manager had purchased for the projection of the films. Anyway, it was a good drawing card for the opening night as Pathé Freres' name looms large in Australia just now through their operators taking pictures all over the Commonwealth in contract with the Government. Items of special interest in this week's series at West's show at Olympia are The Visit of H.M. the King to Berlin and the historical sketch Oliver Cromwell, the latter, in our humble opinion, the best of its class hitherto produced. The patrons are very consistent in their attendance, many declaring they have not missed a week in visiting the hall since the season here commenced, over fourteen months ago, and many of the actors and actresses engaged in the productions get a splendid reception on their first appearance in any new pictorial drama presented.

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West's Pictures and Patriotism.

T. J. West's combination at the Sydney Glaciarium under the style of West's Pictures are evidently ever to the fore, for the March Naval scare, which has evidently a firm hold upon the Australians, was repeated at the show on the night of the 20th ult. The local *Herald* refers to the scene as follows:—"The attitude of the public on the proposal to purchase a Dreadnought for the Empire's defence was shown in an unmistakeable manner on Saturday night. At West's Pictures a series of views was shown dealing with the navy, and when the film of the Dreadnought was thrown on the scene the audience rose to their feet, and, led by the orchestra, sang 'Rule Britannia.' There was little doubt that, had some local poet written a song on the lines of the 'Absent-minded Beggar,' a considerable sum would have been realised towards the necessary fund to carry out the proposal."

An Empire Day Novelty.

Having secured the sole rights for reproducing the artistic series of lantern slides specially designed and manufactured for the new patriotic song "Our Glorious Empire Day" by Arthur Branscombe and Bowker Andrews, Walter Tyler, Ltd., 48 to 50, Waterloo Road, London, S.E., are prepared to treat with managers or artistes wishing to purchase or hire same. This song has already reached a circulation of over one hundred thousand copies, and has been presented by the Earl of Meath and Lord Strathcona to the principal public elementary schools throughout the Empire, bids fair to become the most popular illustrated song now before the public. Professional copies are not issued for this song, but may be obtained, together with permission to sing it in public, from the publishers, Messrr. Ascherburg, Hopwood and Crewe, Ltd., 16, Mortimer Street, and no doubt many will introduce it into their programme.

Kinematograph Suggested to Advertise Town.

A point urged by a deputation to the Southport Council was the adoption of a kinematograph scheme, but the reply of the Improvement Committee is that they consider the lantern slides (which they had already procured) a better way of advertising the town than by kinematograph. However, Mr. Aveling contends that the scheme, as outlined by Mr. Gledhill, would be shown before hundreds and thousands, whereas the lantern slides would be exhibited before comparatively few people. The kinematograph films could be worked in conjunction with films of a comic and otherwise entertaining nature. But independently of these points, Mr. Aveling urged, the lantern slides in the possession of the Corporation required considerable extension, and the literary matter needed to be made more interesting. The deputation, however, had, no doubt that the Improvement Committee would take these matters into consideration. With regard to the Corporation charging carriage one way for the use of the slides, Mr. Aveling says the Traders' Association maintain that if persons are prepared to give a lecture on Southport the Corporation ought to be quite willing to provide everything required for these lectures absolutely free of cost.

Camera House Novelties.

Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, Ltd., have introduced a new type of fire-proof box, having distinct advantages over the ordinary model. The box is in reality a combined spool and fire-proof case; the box is so constructed that it takes the place of the ordinary spool, and is placed on the machine and removed in precisely the same manner. It will be obvious, therefore, that whilst the usual fire-proof cases do not protect the film when not in use, this particular type provides the means whereby the film is always enclosed in a perfect fire-proof box, whether being used on the machine or being ready for projection or already exhibited. In the event of a break in the film the unthreading is not difficult as in the the case of some boxes. The upper part of the rewinding box is removed easily with one hand, and the operation of unthreading is just as simple and perhaps more convenient than is the case with the ordinary spool. Messrs. Butcher have also ready for immediate delivery an ordinary spool box with adjustable rollers and other special features, and a special new iron operating house which complies with all regulations.

The Cup Final.

The films of the Cup Final have had their customary success both in London and Provinces, and with both the Gaumont and Urban Co., who took the match, working at high pressure, numbers of copies were shown on Saturday night, while every order was filled in time for the film to be exhibited on Monday evening.

In London the Palace, Alhambra (where the teams saw the subject), Coliseum, Holborn Empire and many other halls were supplied on Saturday night. The subject was also included in the programme after dinner at Prince's Restaurant on Sunday evening.

Mr. J. Fabbro had the complete film in his Sunday night's show at the Electroscope Palace, Clapham Junction, and will continue it through the week with many other films.

Among the provincial shows to exploit the subject were Mr. J. Duckworth at the Central Hall, Colne, who specially advertised the fact that the match would be shown on Monday evening and through the week; the Hippodrome, Rotherham, where Messrs. Butchers supplied Mr. G. W. Knapton with the film; the Embee Hall, Preston, where Messrs. Merigold include it in a capital list of films; Mr. Sidney Bacon's establishments, the Victoria Hall, York, and St. James' Hall, Kingston; the St. George's Hall, Belfast, where Mr. Herbert Rodgers finds it a capital business bringer; the Colston Hall, Bristol, where Mr. Ralph Pringle showed the picture at 11.20 on Saturday night to a huge audience desirous of seeing how their team had shaped; and at the Empire of the same town, where the film was actually shown at nine o'clock.

Gaumont's Cup Final Film.

The Gaumont, Co., Ltd., excelled themselves on Saturday last at the Crystal Palace. They secured a remarkably fine film of the Cup Tie Final, starting with the players leaving the Pavilion and concluding with the presentation of the Cup and medals by Lord Charles Beresford. All the exciting incidents in the match were recorded on the film, notably the goal scored by Manchester United. The play which led up to the scoring of the point which won the match for the North Country team can be followed as closely as if one were witnessing the actual match, and the passing of the ball into the net and the subsequent kick-off are most realistic. Although the presentation of the Cup and medals did not take place until twenty minutes past five and the light was then failing, this part of the picture is splendid. Lord Charles Beresford is seen shaking hands with each player in turn, and the Manchester captain, Roberts, makes a speech upon receiving the coveted trophy. When the Manchester men have received their medals, little Wedlock is received with sympathetic cheers, and his men follow him, each in turn receiving a hearty handshake and a medal from the hands of the ex-Admiral. Messrs. Ruffell's exhibited the greater portion of the film at Bristol the same evening, a print being turned out by the Gaumont Company in time to catch the 6.30 train from Paddington, a record which will require some beating. The film was also exhibited at the Coliseum, at Chelsea, at Tottenham, at the Theatre de Luxe in the Strand, at Hoxton, and elsewhere in London on Saturday night. A large number of copies were despatched to the Provinces on Sunday. There is no mistaking the enthusiasm of the Gaumont Company's staff where topical films are concerned. The journey from the Crystal Palace Football Pavilion to Piccadilly Circus was accomplished in a fraction over twenty minutes on a De Dion car. Fortunately, there were no police traps on the road!

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460 Arabian Dagger	1	5	0
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100 Mistress's Finery		6	0
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100 Frills		3	6
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300 Berty's Love Letters .. .	1	4	0
325 Thieving Hand	1	2	6
300 Tale of a Shirt	1	0	0
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100 The Polite Lunatic		4	0
125 Prehistoric Motor Ride ...		8	0
110 Amorous Policeman		4	6
125 Stolen Bridle		8	0
120 Clever Artists...		4	6
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175 Vengeance of a Lawyer Clerk ...		7	0
260 Attack in the Rear	1	0	0
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Lantern Rays.

With the object of ventilating my favourite "fad" I have been worrying the Concessionaire of the forthcoming Optical Exhibition at the Crystal Palace as to what he is willing to do in the way of assisting the revival of the Optical Lantern.

He began by enlarging on the special awards to be given for speedy development of kinematographic films taken on the spot and projected a few hours later, on the fact that qualified vocalists will be available for accompanying song slides, on—a lot of other features scarcely satisfying my enquiry. I pinned him to the optical lantern and its possibilities.

"Give us," I said, "something tangible to encourage us in this direction, please. I grant that the provision of vocalists who can sing to song slides is a happy thought, but let me know what else you propose to litt up the show in the direction of the optical lantern, pure and simple?"

"With encouragement," said Mr. Brown, "I am prepared to do a lot. Granted the exhibitors in this section are fairly representative, it is my intention to provide a temporary 'white stage.' Some few years since I happened on a pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Nottingham. It was, I think, a production of Mr. Eade Montefiore. In this an entire scene was illuminated by means of a powerful lantern in front of the dress circle. The scenic appointments were simply painted white. All the effects were obtained from lantern slides and some of them were extremely effective. At one time the whole floor, wings and backcloth of the stage was one large Union Jack; the principal boy sang a patriotic song at the front and the house 'rose' to it. Drury Lane has never shown a finer or more spirited tableau.

"Now with a similar 'white stage' at the Palace, available by all location holders at fixed times either for public or 'invitation' demonstrations, the ingenuity of our slide makers can be thoroughly demonstrated well in time for theatrical managers to arrange for the inclusion of novelties in their autumn and winter productions. If, as I said before, the 'trade' rise to this opportunity I will engage a quartette of talented dancers who will be costumed entirely in white so that kaleidoscopic and other lantern effects can be imparted while they are dancing. The exhibitors will only have to explain to my staff what is wanted and an experienced stage manager will supply all their needs as to properties, etc.

"As long ago as the year of the last Paris Exposition," continued the promoter of the forthcoming show, "I attended the fair outside the walls of the French capital known as the 'Fete de Neuilly.' One of the temporary shows there was called the 'Lady Camelion.' The preparations were crude enough. A small platform, a white property pedestal, and on it a young and pretty girl of good physique. Solely by means of an electric lantern in the orchestra—if the space before the little stage could be so described—some excellent changes were effected, and the producer of the slides used must have been indeed a genius. The little lady was in turn a nun, a priest, a General, an Admiral, the French President, our present Queen, a fireman, a fairy, a witch, and many other persons. Then she was a 'Cigale' in a realistic snow storm, anon a gleaner with abundant wheatsheaf, then Joan of Arc burning at the stake. Very clever and most effective. Such a production would make a most telling 'turn' for the variety theatres or a novel interlude in a kinematographic entertainment. It would not be costly, and would, I am convinced, be a draw. Let the 'trade' wake up. I afford the opportunity, and if there is any competition will be the first to arrange suitable awards."

The public will shortly be able to observe one direction in which the optical lantern can be utilised in connection with spectacular effects at the Albert Hall. A suggestion of the late Sir Augustus Harris is now being carried out by Mr. L. Tussaud. It is to provide a series of tableaux illustrating "The Life of Christ."

The Rev. Father Bernard Vaughan has taken up the matter with his characteristic energy, and as a result a very numerous body of sculptor artists and craftsmen are busy night and day preparing what promises to be the most ambitious production of its kind ever conceived in this or any other country.

By the courtesy of Messrs. Jacksons', of Rathbone Place, I was enabled a few days since to personally inspect the tableau illustrating "The Crucifixion," which is now almost complete. The scenic appointments, entrusted to the cunning brush of Mr. Hemsley, are most striking. The panorama of distant Jerusalem with its temples and palaces in the weird light of breaking day is finely depicted as a background, immediately before us are the three crosses on which are seen the wonderfully life-like figures of the repentant and unrepentant thieves and the heroic study of the suffering Saviour. Close to us are Mary Magdalene (modelled from Miss Glossop Harris), a very imposing Roman soldier, and other figures, there being some ten in all. It is a most striking coup d'œil, majestic, impressive, and replete with dignity.

But it is by means of concealed lanterns that the really wonderful light effects are obtained. The illumination of the picture has been a study of many weeks, and the results attained are masterly. The break of day over the distant city, the miraculous halo around the head of the central sufferer, and the subdued tones of departing night, suggesting rather than revealing the "Cross of the Christ," add a peculiarly fascinating charm to the tableau which would be quite unobtainable by ordinary means.

There are thirty other tableaux in preparation, some of studied simplicity, others of elaborate grandeur. The interior of the Temple will be found a masterpiece of built-up stagecraft, and here again the optical lantern effects will be very fine. All London will rush to see these splendid realisations of Bible story.

Art Films at Aberdeen.

For his holiday programme at the Gaiety, Aberdeen, Mr. Dove Paterson secured the great Pathe art film "The Murder of the Duke of Guise." It proved an immense attraction.

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Latest News from America.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, April 21st, 1909.

Another Independent Triumph.

There have been many sensations since the war between the Independents and the "Licensed" manufacturers entered upon the acute state, but none, it is safe to say, of the same extent as that caused by the announcement, made a few days ago by Mr. Carl Laemmle, that he had given the Patents Co. notice of his intention to relinquish his license and intended to handle Independent film in future. Mr. Laemmle, who is, of course, well known as the head of the big Laemmle Film Service, of Chicago, has generally been regarded as one of the staunchest of the Patents party's supporters, but his letter of resignation reveals the fact that he has gradually come round from a belief in the Patent Company's asserted intention of uplifting the business, to a realisation of the fact that the real object of the Trust is to enrich itself at the expense of every other section of the trade. Another important factor in his change of policy is the fact that the Independents have now by far the better films, which was not the case when the Patents Co. launched its scheme. Following are some of the passages in the letter to the Patents Co. in which Mr. Laemmle announces his decision and which has been published in every journal connected with the trade in America.

Having found by carefully compiled reports that my customers positively will not pay the license demanded by you, and taking into consideration your ultimatum that all customers who have not paid their license must be cut off, I herewith surrender my own license issued by your company and beg to notify you that I shall cease buying films from the manufacturers operating under your rules after April 26th. . . . While I have chafed under many of the arbitrary rules of your company, I have tried to abide by them until I reached my limit of endurance. My letters show that 90 per cent. of my customers (and all of my prospective customers) want me to be more independent than I can possibly be as long as I do business along the lines that you insist upon. Your latest announcement that the renters shall collect license money from exhibitors is, of course, absurd. It virtually is an attempt to turn my offices into collecting agencies and is altogether out of the question. I have too much respect for the exhibitors and too much for myself to listen to any such proposition. . . . Your company has had a glorious opportunity to do the whole moving picture industry a world of good. For my part I honestly believed you would seize upon it, improve it to the extent of your ability and bring order out of chaos. But you have failed us—you have hurt the very renters whose patronage gave you your best support—you have treated the exhibitors without any consideration whatsoever.

Mr. Laemmle states that, although he may lose customers at the outset, he believes eventually his business will show an increase of from 30 to 50 per cent. as a result of the superior Independent service.

Scratchless Films.

President Baker of the Globe Film Service is authority for the statement that the time is near at hand when "rainy" films will be unknown. Mr. Baker said: "We have a process of our own for keeping our stock in prime condition. Every day is washday with us, and the minute a film shows the least sign of 'rain' it is put through its bath and every scratch removed. Of course this process is only used on films having perfect sprocket holes, and our experience has demonstrated that films two years old may be made to look as though they had never been run through a machine before. We find such films particularly valuable to exhibitors in localities where picture houses have only been established for the past six months to a year and a half."

Swanson Prospers as an Independent.

The business of the W. H. Swanson Co. and its various branches has greatly increased since the firm joined the Independent movement. At the Chicago headquarters every employee in each department is kept busy from early morning until night. Aside from a multitude of increasing orders for service, the Swanson Co. is now in the market for 50 singers, 50 piano players and 50 operators for Summer engagements in opera houses in the South.

Competition Makes Good Shows.

The liveliest kind of a moving picture war is being waged between the management of the Princess Theatre, Youngstown, O., and Charles E. Smith, who recently lost that playhouse following a lawsuit. Smith has engaged the Park Theatre for all open dates, offering two vaudeville acts, illustrated songs and 6,000 feet of pictures for a 5-cent. admission. The Princess, across the street, is playing two vaudeville acts, illustrated songs and 8,000 feet of pictures for 5 cents.

Is It "The Last Straw?"

The announcement made by the Patents Co. that in future exhibitors will be expected to pay their weekly royalty in advance to the "licensed" exchange supplying them with films seems likely to cause more trouble than any of their previous arrangements, outrageous as some of them have been. The renters are said to object strongly to collecting the money for the manufacturers in this way—knowing perfectly well that if pressed for the royalty very many exhibitors would go Independent.

Projection in Lighted Hall.

The "Licensed" manufacturers are credited with the idea of developing the daylight screen idea, and are said to have conducted experiments in New York recently in order to discover the best method of illumination. They are believed to have decided in favour of green electric bulbs near the screen and amber coloured ones further back in the hall.

Kalem Co. Opens New Headquarters.

The Kalem Co. expect to be settled down in a new building they have acquired in West Twenty-Third Street of this city by May 1st. The new headquarters include a model factory for films and apparatus, in addition to office accommodation.

Items.

Mr. J. T. Hennegan, manager of the Lubin Amusement Company, Cincinnati, O., has granted his employees the privilege of organising a baseball team to be called the Lubin Baseball Club. Mr. Lubin will furnish the suits, bats, etc., for the club.

The largest policy of liability insurance ever issued has just been taken out to cover the 5,000 or more motion picture theatres located throughout the United States licensed by the Patents Company. The policy will cover a risk of 5,000,000 dollars. The company issuing the policy is the New Amsterdam Casualty Company of New York City, and the assured will issue certificates to the licensees of the Patents Company covering them in case of damages for which they may be liable, by reason of bodily injuries or death sustained in any way whatsoever. This is the first time in history that all motion picture theatres have been allowed insurance, and is the result of the Department of Inspection formed by the Patents Company.

The new copyright law which is expected to kill "duping" comes into force on July 1st.

A meeting was called together by the International Projecting Company of Chicago at the Victor Theatre, Mobile, recently. The films shown were loudly applauded, and as a result of the demonstration two out of the five theatoriums in the town will go Independent.

Five out of eight picture houses in Galveston, Texas, have

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gone Independent as a result of the recent display there by the International Company.

Mr. Murdoch, of the International Projecting Company, is expected in New York shortly to open an office there for his company, whose headquarters are, of course, at Chicago.

President Taft was recently present at the Columbia Theatre, Washington, where Mr. Fred Niblo is giving his "Travel Talk" on Russia, illustrated by films.

"Iron" Hague.

FACTS FOR SHOWMEN FEATURING THE HAGUE-MOIR CONTEST.

(BY OUR SHEFFIELD CORRESPONDENT.)

"Iron" Hague has won the Championship of England, as I predicted a few weeks ago, after a sensational fight with Gunner Moir. I hoped that the few remarks I made would have encouraged small makers to secure a film of "Iron" before he became so prominent. But now the match is over, perhaps a short account of the life of the young Yorkshire boxer will be interesting to those who will be showing the film.

William Hague was born 23 years ago in Mexbro', a small mining town 11 miles from Sheffield. He is one of a well-known athletic family. Hague's grandfather was one of the finest cricketers the district produced. Two of his uncles will be well known to all British football enthusiasts—"Micky" Bennet, a famous International footballer, and the late "Cocky" Bennet, who also received International honours.

Early in life Billy Hague received his nickname "Iron" from his schoolmates, owing partly to his disregard for the schoolmaster's strap, and also to his novel method of raising spending money. For a halfpenny, or the same amount expended in ice cream, "Iron" would run full tilt with his head against a wall or punch a pile of bricks with his bare fist.

After leaving school Hague commenced work in the glass works and then had a spell in the pit, but his ambition was to become a boxer, and we shortly find him entering competitions for small sums of money given by travelling showmen visiting the district. Giving a good account of himself in these bouts "Iron" was taken in hand by the local supporters of the noble art, who matched him with such men as Albert Rodgers, Corporal Sunshine, Charlie Wilson and Ben Taylor—all of whom he defeated easily. Now "Iron" has cleared away the great Gunner we shall soon have another splendid film subject, "Iron" Hague-Johnson—if the latter gentleman is willing.

Perhaps it would be as well to clear up a little misunderstanding respecting the title of Hague. His name is usually reported as Ian, and Hague must have come to the conclusion that it was a new method of spelling "Iron," his nickname, as the majority of people pronounce it.

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[We do not accept responsibility for the views expressed.]

AN EVENING OF ILLUSTRATED SONGS.

To the Editor, KINEMATOGRAPH AND LANTERN WEEKLY.

SIR;—In last week's issue of the WEEKLY—how it has changed since the days of the *Optical Lantern Journal*—there is quoted under the heading of "Lantern Rays" a statement made by Mr. O. C. Holt that "An entertainment entirely composed of illustrated songs would be a frost. . . . Imagine two solid hours of song slides. It is unthinkable." Will Mr. Holt say why? It does not follow because he has met a "duffer" that everyone must be the same. I have run a concert company in Lancashire since 1896, whose first aim and speciality is "illustrated concerts." We use a Bi-Unial and the oxy-hydrogen jets, and it is evident, judging from the manner in which our efforts are rewarded. together with the reports we receive, that the people here do not find "two solid hours of song slides unthinkable," nor, may I add, have I found it a "frost." You kindly reviewed our booklet on October 22nd, 1908, and I enclose a few programmes. Distance is no object, and if Mr. Holt will book us at our tee I think we can convince him that he is wrong.—Yours, etc.,

Pictorial Concert Co., Manchester. T. C. T. SMITH, (Manager, Pictorial Concert Co.)

[The bunch of programmes sent us by Mr. Smith certainly go to prove that a programme comprised solely of good songs rendered by capable vocalists and illustrated by artistic slides can be made a complete success. We should be glad if other entertainers would send us particulars of their experience with the illustrated song attraction.—ED.]

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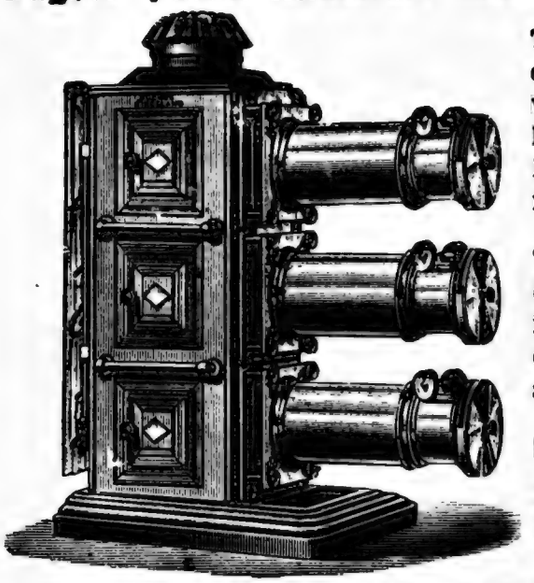

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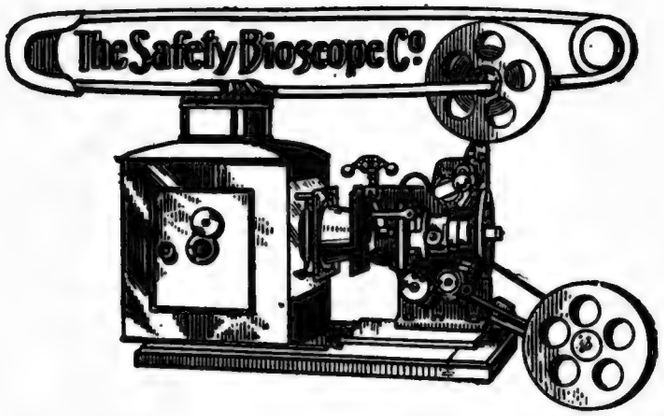

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Round the Shows.

We shall be glad if Showmen and Exhibitors will send us their Programmes, List of Films, or any information respecting their doings. Contributions should be written on one side of the paper only and cannot be used otherwise.

Death of Mrs. Waller Jeffs.

We regret to chronicle the decease of Mrs. Waller Jeffs, who passed away on Thursday last at the residence of her husband, near Birmingham. Mrs. Jeffs was known to a large circle of acquaintances, by whom she was greatly beloved and respected. We tender our most sincere condolences to Mr. Waller Jeffs in his severe trial.

The Irish Animated Photo Company at the Dublin Rotunda did huge business with the Burns-Johnson fight film last week, The Grand National being among the other subjects shown.

Berners Hall, Islington, N.—During the forthcoming Territorial Exhibition Messrs. Jury will present an attractive selection of animated photographs illustrating Scenes in Territorial Life and Wild Sports of the World.

Pavilion, Sunderland.—Nat Pinkerton in The Anarchist Plot is the chief film here, supported by Pensions for Working People, Runaway Dog, Cheap Entertainment, Two Sons, 'I Did It, Mamma,' Who Has Seen My Head? and King of Thieves.

Brighton.—Mr. Barrasford's picture enterprise in New Road continues its career of uneventful prosperity. Pictures of the local police distributing clothing to poor children of London-on-Sea are very popular with the townsmen.

St. George's Picture Palace, S.E.—Mr. George Edwards has scored well by introducing the Johnson-Burns Fight. The commodious hall is now crowded at each performance, and the organisation "in front" is excellent.

At the King's Theatre, Nottingham, the dramatic element predominated in last week's bill, the chief films being Fisherman's Bride, Lucy of Lammermoor, and Pensions for Working People. Cinephone selections were an additional attraction, and Mr. Ernie Williams' songs are also popular.

Pringle's Pictures are putting in their last week at the Public Hall, Rochdale, previous to removal to the Empire of the same town, which will be re-christened the Picture Palace. The list of films is a strong one, including the White Chief, Mr. Softy, Moonlight Friend, Pompey's Dream, Obliging Friend, Brahmah Diamond, and others.

The Columbia Animated Pictures continue at the Large Town Hall, Pontypridd, under the management of Mr. J. E. Atkinson, this week's features being Duty v. Revenge, Saved by His Dog, Silent Habit, Son's Crime, Bedtime, Fight for Honour, House of Excitement, Karrie Snation, and Dreams of a Policeman, the Cinephone in latest selections, Zenora the Equilibrist, and Phyllis Irvine (vocalist),

Weymouth.—Mr. Lilly, of Bath, has acquired premises on the front of the "Naples of England" and is converting them into a kinematograph theatre to seat over 700. A novelty will be a bricked-up lantern-box over the centre entrance. The screen at the other end of the hall will be surrounded by heavy plushette curtains and valance, while between the pictures a beautifully painted act-drop will be shown with a view of "Portland from the Sea" by Mr. Callan, of St. Heliers.

The Gaiety, Aberdeen.—The Adventures of Morgan the Pirate are continued here, where the series is proving a popular successor to Nick Carter and Rifle Bill. The second series, The Prophecy, is featured this week. Among other films on the current bill the chief are His Wife's Mother, Prince's Love Affair, Lesson in Electricity, and The Prussian Spy. "The Kissing Duet from 'The Geisha'" and "The Salome Dance Music" prove popular selections on the Cinephone. Miss Madge Hilton accompanies the pictures, and an additional attraction is provided by "A Pictorial Trip to Chicago."

The Kingsland Palace's holiday programme drew excellent houses to the attractive bijou house. A Tale of Two Cities, the Reign of Terror, Scenes in Palermo, Mohawk's Ring, Mermaid's Purse, Capricious Statue, Importunate Neighbour, Pinch of Snuff, The Elopement, Persistent Followers, and Bridal Couple Dodging the Cameras were the chief films.

Central Hall, Colne.—The Premier Pictures, well projected as ever by Mr. J. Duckworth's "Chrono," include this week On the Brink of a Precipice, Jimmy as Stove Fitter, Logging in Sweden, Stilton's Revenge, The Most Dangerous Coast of Europe, Non-stop Motor Cycle, Love's Sweet Melody, and Algy Earns His Own Living. A well-printed poster is sent by Mr. Duckworth, in which each film is pithily described in a few lines of letterpress.

Mr. Thos. Wyatt writes from the Vestry Hall, Redcliffe, that although he has now been established there for eighteen weeks with the Grand Biograph Pictures, business still shows a steady increase. A strong bill this week includes Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, Mr. and Mrs. Brown Go Motoring, Pocket Policeman, Disturbed Wedding Party, Cartouche, and Japanese Fantasy. Variety turns are quite a feature here, this week's artistes being Mr. Dan Jacques and Lottie Rowe.

The Lytham Picture Palace has let slip no opportunity of ensuring the success of the film of the Burns-Johnson fight, which they are featuring this week, by arrangement with the Gaumont Co. A reward of £1,000 is offered to anyone who can prove that the film is not the genuine one of the great encounter, and a special handbill sets out all the interesting facts regarding the contest, which were published in the Weekly some time ago. A special poster, with an appropriate illustration of the men in action, has also been sent us.

Rotherham.

The Columbia Animated Picture Co. boomed the Johnson, Burns Fight at the Town Hall, Rotherham, last week. Other films included A Modern Grace Darling, Drama in a Stone Quarrys Farmer Jones Goes to Market, The Sexton's Sleepwalk, The Woman Who Wasn't, A Wonderful Scarf, The Magistrate's Conscience, Curate's Honeymoon, and the screaming comic Our Village Band at the Competition, which has been shown by request every time the Company have visited Rotherham. A special feature was the lecturing by Mr. Harry Plant.

Glasgow.

Hengler's Pictures.—The programmes at this establishment are generally voted better each week. Last week's chief pictures were Across the Atlantic, and Blind Man of Jerusalem, with a long list of comics and dramatics. The Auxetophone renders selections by the world's greatest singers.

St. Andrew's Hall.—The "B.B." Pictures here continue to be favoured with large audiences, last week being the third of the present season. On the evening of the 19th inst. the Independent Order of Foresters were present in great force at the invitation of the management.

Another new Pringle Show.—Mr. Ralph Pringle is always turning up in new places and there can now be few picture entertainers controlling as many companies as he. On May 3rd he will take over the Empire, Rochdale, for an indefinite period and run it under the style of "Pringle's Picture Palace," with Mr. James Pringle as general manager; acting manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves: stage manager, Mr. William Hepworth; and operator, Mr. John Robson. Mr. Pringle is already, of course, favourably known to the Rochdale public as a result of his long season at the Public Hall, which comes to a close with this week's programme, printed in our "Round the Shows" column, and he will have the advantage of starting his run at the Palace with an established connection and a staff which exactly knows the local requirements. Mr. James Pringle's advertising for the Public Hall has often been alluded to by us as a model of what picture show billing should be, and he should have no difficulty in repeating his success at his new headquarters by similar methods.

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Victoria Hall, York (Sidney Bacon).—The great attraction this week is the Cup Final, a set of pictures that receive an ovation each time shown. Other items in a powerful programme are Will of a Youngster, A Mother's Sin, Tragedy in the Snow, William's Suicide, and the Warwick Cinephone, which increases in popularity.

Market Hall, Whitehaven.—The Edisonia Picture Co. have another strong picture programme this week, including Morgan the Pirate, Cord of Life, Don't Wake the Bobby, Sailor's Daughter, and the Warwick Cinephone with an entirely new set of singing pictures, which are received with enthusiasm every evening.

St. James's Hall, Kingston (Sidney Bacon).—The English Football Cup Final is the special attraction this week. Amongst other popular pictures may be mentioned The Gamekeeper's Son, Morgan the Pirate, The Two Sergeants, and Love and Pity. This week an entire change of programme is given on the last three nights.

Picture Hall, Middlesbrough (manager, Mr. T. Thompson). L'Arlesienne, the Pathé Film d'Art, is the chief subject here this week, others on the bill being Little Shepherd, Pity and Love, Mother Whipper, Hindu's Ring, Electric Policeman, Awful Hats, Fisherman's Son, Squire's Folly, Woman's Craft, Gaffer, King of Detectives, and Village Fiddler.

Hippodrome, Rotherham.—Mr. G. W. Knapton has provided a strong attraction here this week by exhibiting the Cup Tie Final, and an exceedingly humorous subject is added entitled Love Germs. The pictures form a star turn in the programme at this hall each week. An "Empire" machine is installed, and Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, Ltd., are responsible for the film supply.

Borough Theatre, Heywood.—The Edisonia Picture Co. are still occupying this theatre with animated pictures, and owing to the excellent programmes submitted, capital houses are the result. This week The Three Musketeers, Squire's Folly Telepathic Warning, Woman's Vanity, and the Warwick Cinephone are amongst the leading pictures shown.

Villette Picture Hall, Sunderland (Lessees the Chicago Animated Picture Co.; General Manager, Mr. P. Harrison; Pianiste, Miss Barker; Acting Manager and Kinematographist, Mr. Leslie Talmage).—An exceptionally fine programme is given here this week, including The Zulu's Heart, The Flower Girl of Paris, The Pocket Policeman, The Runaway Dog, etc. Mr. J. B. Melby scores nightly with his humorous recitals.

Grand Theatre, Halifax (Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; acting manager, Mr. S. Winks).—A long list of variety artistes are featured here, but the picture programme is as long and varied as usual, the chief films being Birth of a Big Gun, On the Brink of a Precipice, Week's Absence, Hunting Extraordinary, Lover's Obstinacy, Love Tabloid, Forgotten Umbrella, Stilton's Revenge, For a Flower, and The Magic Carpet.

Wheatsheaf Hall, Monkwearmouth.—The New Animated Picture Co. have again prepared an attractive poster for their programme of films this week. The chief are The Tower of London and Curfew Shall Not Ring To-Night—the latter described by quotations from the poem. These two headliners are supported by Army Socks, Happiest Day in Her Life, Shark Hunting, Busy Night, and Mr. Absentminded.

Public Hall, Carlisle (Sidney Bacon).—Two complete programmes are given here each week, the changes taking place on Monday and Thursday evenings, a new departure that is proving successful. Amongst this week's attractions may be mentioned The Two Sergeants, Farmer's Grandson, Mr. and Mrs. Brown Motoring, Morgan the Pirate, Poor Man's Daughter, Magic Carpet, Love and Pity, and The Gamekeeper's Son.

The New Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness (Mr. Ralph D. Fenton, general manager for Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge).—Life in the British Navy is the star film here, occupying a prominent position on the poster sent us, while other subjects include Rustic Flirt, Unknown Talent, Apostle of Gaul, Easter Bells, Prussian Spy, Man of Many Falls, Carried Off by an Eagle, Mayor's Misfortune, and His First Walking Stick. The 30th musical competition will be held on Thursday.

The Electroscope Palace, Clapham Junction (Manager, Mr. J. Fabbro, jun.).—On Sunday evening the entire film of the English Cup Final was shown here. The details were splendid, and the audiences appreciated it very much. The programme for the week includes the following selected films: The Two Sergeants, Foolshead Wishes to Commit Suicide, An Abduction in the Reign of Louis XVI., A Robber Robbed, Inheritance of Baptiste Durant, The Cure of a Neurasthenic, Jack of all Trades, Nick Carter the Double, Oh that Redtapeism, The Substitute, The Fatal Telegram, etc. Fabbro's Improved Singing Picture is the song and dance entitled "A Lassie from Lancashire." Business continues good.

Leeds.

Animated picture shows continue to fill an important place in the entertainment world of Leeds. At the GRAND ASSEMBLY ROOMS last week a fine series of pictures was shown, including A Life for a Locket, and Spirit of the Ruins, while The Marlows gave a good musical turn.

At the COLISEUM the International Moving Pictures had Pompeii as their chief number, and it was well received at every performance. A Tour Through Russia, The Stepmother, Harry the Hooligan, and Why Father Grew a Beard were also shown.

Preston.

THE EMBEE HALL (Proprietors, Messrs. Merigold Bros.).—The Avenham Street establishment has a special attraction for this week in the film illustrating Life in the British Navy, which is suitably advertised by red, white and blue handbills. Among the supporting films the chief are Man Housemaid, How a Suffragette Got a Husband, Invisible Thief, Wandering Jew, Pretty Fisherwoman, Love of a Pasha's Son, Peeps into Nature's Realms, and special photos showing How the Preston North End Football Players will spend the Close Season. A ladies' free night was held on Wednesday.

Birmingham.

KING'S HALL.—A good collection of films were shown here last week, including Texas Tex, For His Daughter's Sake, Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, Universal Flirt, Flower Girl of Paris, Miss Trot the Milliner, and Madame Luttrell's Jewels. The Three Sisters Raymond (dancers) and Doris Bird (vocalist) are responsible for the vaudeville turns.

QUEEN'S HALL.—The programme submitted last week was well up to standard. A Welcome Burglar and The Faun were the chief films, there were numerous humorous slides, and Miss Ivy Rochefort and Mr. Maurice Lee gave pleasing variety items.

Sheffield.

CENTRAL HALL (Proprietors, Jasper Redfern, Ltd.).—A Traitor in the Camp is showing with great success here to the usual crowded houses; other films shown include The Heroism of a Soldier, A Spoilt Child, Cumbersome Game, Longing for Gold, Hypnotised, The Moth Hunter, Away to Happiness and a very humorous subject—When Father Learnt to Ride. Smart variety turns are given by Bella Stracey (versatile vocalist), The Sisters Gage (refined entertainers), and The Two Maltans in their comedy sketch "Marrying on the Bounce."

THE GRAND (Proprietors, the Vaudeville Syndicate; manager, A. W. Turpin).—Raymond's Bio Tableaux Company show Oliver Twist as the headliner at the Grand this week, supported by A Forgiving Wife, A Friend in Need, In Lapland, Sailor's Widow, The Mesmerist, and The Comic Burglars. A special feature are the title slides shown before each film, which greatly enhance the value of the pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE (Proprietors, North of England Theatres Corporation; managing director, Frank Macnaghten).—Another good week at the Royal with The Spectre of the Plains, A Pretty Housemaid, Saved by a Dream, The Prestige of His Uniform, and A Revealing Phonograph; illustrated songs by Bessie Neilson and selections by the Cinephone, which is increasingly popular. All the subjects were heartily received.

HILLSBRO' PALACE OF VARIETIES (Proprietor, J. C. Brothwell).—Mr. Brothwell is running a fine programme this week with The Dynamite Throwers, The Mesmerist, Up-to-date Removals, The Little Chimney Sweep, A Statue on the Spree, Life's Realities, Madam's Fancies. The audience received all the pictures in their usual hearty manner. Variety is provided by Leslie (comedian), Enie Les Carres (vocalist), and Lewis's Sketch Company in "The Vendetta."

IMPERIAL HALL (Proprietors, The Sheffield Bioscope Co.; manager, L. Shaw).—The Sheffield Bioscope Company complete their fourth and last week of the season at the Imperial Hall. The company will re-open about the end of September after alterations to the hall. This week's films include the fine picture Search for Oblivion; also Duty versus Revenge, Intricate Duel, Millstone Quarry, A Week's Absence, Electrified Hunchback, Lynch Law, and Dr. Cornelius.

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St. George's Hall, Belfast.—Mr. Herbert Rodgers, who reports continued good business, has The Cup Final film as his headliner this week, together with a list of comics and dramatics, etc., of which the chief are Ma-in-Law in the Country, Christmas, Removal Under Difficulties, Sunset, Everybody Works But Father, Count of Monte Christo, Father and Son, and American Does London in Ten Minutes. Mr. Rodgers also features the Cinephone, and Little Agnes Tina, the wonderful child mimic who made such a hit on the London halls recently.

Bristol.

MR. RALPH PRINGLE did excellent business at the Colston Hall last week, his films including Tylda the Lion Tamer, Merchant of Venice, La Tarca, The Ingrate, The Moonlight Fiend, Wreath in Time, Katie's Birthday, Dr. Wright's Invention and numerous travels, of which the chief was Scenes of the Riviera.

PRINGLE'S PICTURE PALACE has become tremendously popular in the short time it has been opened, and last week's programme was well up to the standard of its predecessors, the chief numbers being The Minstrel, The Moonlight Friend, White Chief, Wreath in Time, He Thought He Had Cholera, At Home Day, and Doctor Wright's Invention. Flo Gibson and Harry Lenton contributed popular songs.

Swansea.

SHAFTESBURY HALL (Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Coutts).—A Telepathic Warning, In Search of Oblivion, Little Seller of Plaster Figures, Will of a Youngster, Rival Mesmerists, Lady with the Camelias, and In the Land of Nod are this week's chief films.

THE PALACE (Mr. Wm. Coutts, Manager).—This old-established and popular hall is featuring the following for the present week, with Cinephone selections and several artistes in illustrated songs as additional attractions:—Western Tragedy, Little Shepherd, Castle Ghosts, Borrowed Ladder, Wary Policeman, Face to Face, Sculptor's Daughter, The Hazers, Bob the Scullion, and The Old Old Story.

South Shields.

TIVOLI.—Once again the energetic management of this popular hall are to the fore with an excellent series of living pictures. Among the splendid production are the following up-to-date films The Poor Musician, a really touching domestic drama, The Bird Nester, The Days of Richelieu, The Lion's Bride, Who Stole Casey's Wood, and How the Kids got Even. The Cinephone is very good and deserves all the applause bestowed upon it; the subject this week is My Little Deutscher Girl.

PRUDENTIAL HALL.—There is an exceptionally good programme at this hall. The efforts of the obliging staff are being nightly rewarded by large and appreciative audiences. Among the pictures are Father Miller, A Rustic Flirt, His Father's Honour; the spectacular films are an imposing view of the Russian fleet in the Baltic and Fresh Air Fund for Paris Children, the comics are really excellent including The World Turned Upside Down, A Lesson in Electricity and An Attack of Influenza. For the next two weeks the management have been able to secure two Pathé art films which are sure to be appreciated by their many patrons.

ROYAL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—The Sovereign Picture Company continue their long stay and as usual have a first class programme. By reason of their long visit, the management have been able to study the taste of their patrons, and the result obtained is a carefully selected and varied programme. This week's list includes the following splendid subjects Henry III., Cyrano de Bergerac, The Little Dog Clipper, Saturday's Rest, Foolshead wishes to Commit Suicide and The Bewitched Drum. The films are really worth seeing and visitors to South Shields should make a point of visiting this fine and comfortable picture hall.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—The King's Picture Co. still continue to draw large crowds, and this week, in addition to their usual excellent programme, they have secured the Gaumont Co.'s latest success, The English Cup Final between Manchester United and Bristol City. The manner in which the pictures are shown by their skilled operator, Mr. Geo. Elsey, N.C.O.A., satisfies the audiences, and Mr. Hugh Moore (the genial lecturer) continues to find fresh enthusiasm in spite of the fact that he has now been 70 weeks in the town—48 with the Sovereign Picture Co. and the rest with his present employers.

COSY CORNER PICTURE HALL.—Mr. Wilkie, the manager of this hall, has been successful in securing a good programme for this week's show. The chief pictures are The Special License, Witch of Seville, A Western Courtship, and Pat Corner, all being very fine dramatic productions; Cupid's Four Darts, John Wishes to Marry, The Policewoman, and I've Asked my Chief to Dinner providing the comic element. The pictures are made doubly interesting by the careful operating of Mr. J. S. Bainton and his assistant, Mr. E. Elsey.

North Shields.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—That the pictures are as good as ever is the unanimous decision of Mr. Geo. Black's many patrons. The programme presented this week appeals to all the large audiences, and combines some excellent up to date pictures, including the following:—The Cattle Rustlers, a film of Wild West life; Pathé Art picture, The Share of the Poor; The Two Sergeants, A Trip Through the Channel Islands, A Present for a Son-in-Law, The Ma-in-Law Sportsman, A Pair of Kids, and A Wary Policeman. The Cinephone picture is well received with My Little Yiddisher Boy, as is Miss Edie Green in illustrated song. On Sunday first a special performance will he given in aid of the Tynmouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary, and the picture The Life of Christ and others will be shown.

HOWARD HALL (Proprietors, The Anglo-American Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. J. R. Dickman; Operator, Mr. Harry Feid; Lecturer, Mr. J. W. Harrison; Pianist, Mr. T. Heeley).—The Anglo-American Co. score another distinct hit with their programme this week. Projected on the screen by a thoroughly up to date machine. the splendid films gain great and well deserved applause. Among the fine productions are the descriptive picture Our Navy, Morgan the Pirate, Foolshead the Policeman, Our Animal Kingdom, The Sailor's Adopted Child, The Haunted Chess Player, and An Irish Hero. On Friday evening last the boys and band of the Tyne Training ship "Wellesley" were entertained at the first house.

CENTRAL PALACE.—The variety company at this theatre are better now than ever. The star turn this week is Robinson & Brown, The Bricklayer and his Labourer, who are supported by the following talented artists: J. P. Carroll, Niagara & Falls, and Mr. Barren Davies in illustrated songs Silly Billy and Red Wing. The slides are very picturesque, being part of the famous Walter Tyler series. The Kinematograph shows a very interesting dramatic picture this week, entitled The Mummer's Daughter, accompanied by a fine comic, Champion Burglar Catcher. Every credit is due to the able operator, Mr. Jack Rouse, A.M.P.S., to whom the success of the pictures is due in no small measure.

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New Films and their Makers.

CRICKS & MARTIN

A new topical film is issued by this firm with the title My Word If I Catch You Smoking. It is an amusing skit on the new "Childrens' Act." In the opening scene a policeman is seen reading the new Act and congratulating himself upon the prospect of free and plentiful tobacco. Seeing what he thinks is a boy smoking he promptly collars him, but on his turning round discovers, much to his disgust, that he is a little old man. After despoiling a poor little urchin of his cigarettes, the policeman strikes another boy. The latter is a very rough customer and Robert has to blow his whistle for assistance. The youngster is marched off between two policemen. Some of the boys decide to get even with the police and concocting an explosive cigar await developments. A policeman soon discovers the youngsters smoking and collars the ringleader, making him hand over a cigar case. The boys take to their heels and the bobby prepares for a quiet smoke. Going round by some new buildings he settles down to enjoy himself, but the cigar explodes and he is precipitated into a mortar trough from which he emerges dripping with wet plaster. The boys have, meanwhile, been watching the proceedings, and upon discovering his tormentors the policeman chases the youngsters, who, however, are too quick for him and escape. The picture closes with a demonstration by the boys, which is dispersed by the police.

WILLIAMSON, DRESSLER & Co.

A typical Selig film with the title The Cattle Rustlers admirably reproduces the atmosphere of the "Wild and Woolly West," and seems certain of a successful run in this country. It is a thrilling story of the capture of a band of cattle thieves, and includes pictures of some daring riding with plenty of fighting in typical prairie scenery. In the opening a number of cowboys are seen gathered about a placard offering a reward for the capture of a body of "rustlers" who have been raiding the cattle of neighbouring ranchers. Scene two takes us to the headquarters of the gang—a camp on the river bank—where the men read the bill offering the reward before setting out on another foray. The leader also rides off to a neighbouring hut and shows the poster to his sweetheart. The following scene shows the rustlers crossing the stream, rounding up the herd—a fine picture—and driving it at full gallop to their own secret corral, where the young steers are marked with the brand of the thieves. A ranch-woman sees the troop and, galloping off, tells the men at the ranch, and the latter, headed by the girl, are soon on the track of the thieves. The latter take to flight, and an exciting running fight occurs as the horsemen gallop through the woods, the chase culminating in an interchange of pistol shots at short range, which ends in the discomfiture and capture of the thieves. The leader escapes, and, although recaptured, breaks away again and manages to reach his sweetheart's cottage, where he is hidden. Unfortunately for him, the cook at the rustler's camp gives the ranchmen a clue to his leader's whereabouts, and after a stirring fight he is overpowered, dragged with the others before the ranch owner, and summarily condemned to be hung under the drastic "prairie law," his sweetheart's pleadings being disregarded by the cowboys, who place him in a hut while making ready for the execution. When they enter to carry him out it is to find, however, that he has already succumbed to his wounds.

The Selig Co. are also the makers of a short comic entitled A Pair of Kids, which Williamson's issue. The mischief makers in the subject are a boy and girl who tie a piece of rope across a roadway, upset a cyclist and many other people, and after a chase (in the course of which an old gentleman has his clothes smothered in mortar and a fruit vendor sees his wares upset in the gutter) they finish by struggling with a policeman in the river.

Itala Company

Since Foolshead made a much appreciated first appearance before the English public he has figured in some of the most humorous films which have been issued in the history of the trade, but many will think that in his sixth adventure, published this week, this eccentric character surpasses all his previous efforts. We are shown how Foolshead Pays His Debts. The title would be more exact if it read "evades" his debts, for Foolshead emerges triumphantly after being on several occasions cornered by tradesmen to whom he owes money. As soon as they grasp him, Foolshead, who on this occasion appears to have the assistance of a supernatural power, appears some distance off jeering at them. The film begins when he is buttonholed in the street by one of his enemies. Escaping from him by the method described, he proceeds homewards and in the hall of his residence finds a crowd of other creditors, who pounce on him and attempt to take their money by force. While the strife is at its hottest, Foolshead vanishes, and from the other side of the room smilingly watches the crowd beating the empty air. When they see him again another rush is made, and Foolshead vanishes through the shut door, and, espying a portmanteau, opens it and steps in. The closed bag climbs by itself on to a table in the centre of the room and as the pursuers enter slips out of the room and down the stairs, upsetting a porter in its course. In the street a most amazing chase occurs, culminating in the bag dragging the whole party, who have managed to grasp it, down a steep flight of steps. At last Foolshead mysteriously emerges from the bag before an old couple, who are so

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impressed that they buy it from him, step in, and vanish—to be shaken out and roughly handled by the pursuers when they turn up. The film has a clever finish—the two old people are seen attempting to belabour Foolshead, who stands between them unaffected and at last causes everything to vanish except his own hat which whirls round and round until it is only a white circle which gradually grows larger and alters in form until it takes the well-known shape of the Itala trade mark.

A Little Sherlock Holmes introduces a remarkably clever boy actor and includes some fine views of mountain scenery. A band of brigands capture a traveller and by torturing him at their headquarters, a cave in the mountains, force him to write a note to his wife to the effect that unless £10,000 is left at a certain spot he will be killed. A number of the brigands accompany the man who is to leave the note on the window sill of the prisoner's house and wait at a near-by inn while he proceeds on his errand. Unknown to him, the little son of the captured man sees the note put on the sill and follows the fellow on his return to the inn, and borrowing the sheepskin coat of a peasant boldly enters after him and asks for a bed. He is shown into the loft, and listening at the trapdoor hears the talk of the outlaws and follows the messenger when he leaves the place. The latter proceeds to the headquarters of the gang and entering tells the only other member of the gang present that he has successfully accomplished his mission. The two then leave the cave and the boy enters—a pretty shadow effect being secured as he passes the entrance. Inside he is soon busy untying his father's bonds, but hearing one of the men returning hides behind a boulder. The brigand leans his rifle against a rock and begins to illtreat the captive, whereupon the boy picks up the weapon and shoots him, then, releasing his father, the two are soon on their way to safety, an appropriate conclusion showing the reunited family.

Hepwix HEPWORTH MANUFACTURING Co Hepwix

A Pair of Truants.—A small boy leaves home for school, looking clean and smart, when unfortunately he falls in with a schoolfellow of a much rougher type. The latter entices his companion away from the school door after much persuasion, and the lads go off to enjoy themselves. After eating lunch they worry a shopkeeper by kicking at his door. The inexperienced lad is caught and severely cuffed, while his companion makes good his escape laughing. The poor scapegoat is next persuaded to get over a wall for apples, where he is again caught and spanked. Further escapades only bring further suffering to the same lad, until, thoroughly tired and sick of the business, he quarrels with his companion. They have a set-to, but the scapegoat is again the sufferer, and he is left lying in the road. After the children have marched out from school the teacher sets out for the scapegoat's home, where he is surprised to learn the lad was sent in good time for school. The mother requests the teacher to punish the lad on the first opportunity, and promises a warm reception when he arrives home. As the man is walking from the house he runs across the battered lad and gives him something to remember. The lad staggers home and falls against his door quite helpless; he is not left here long, however, for his mother rushing out drags him in and administers a further hiding.

When Thieves Fall Out.—In a wretched room a number of rough looking individuals are gambling. After a while they drop their play and commence talking in energetic fashion. A young intruder, who pokes his nose in, is promptly expelled from the room. Their plans are closely followed, however, by the thief outside, for a picture is moved aside, and his head is disclosed poking through an aperture. The final arrangemets for a burglary made, the men break up, and the listener enters the room as soon as the coast is clear. He makes up his mind to forestall their plans and to take the haul alone For this purpose he disguises himself in a policeman's uniform and goes out. In a well-furnished room, late in the evening, a gentleman checks off his valuables before returning them in a handbag to the safe. When he is satisfied all is secure he retires to rest. The false policemen appears at the French windows and soon prises them open. He next turns his attention to the safe, attacking it with drill and chisel, but, after a while, proves these are useless, and throws them to the floor in disgust. The policeman dodges away out of the door none too soon, for the jeweller enters the room with a candle. Turning to the open door, he steps back astounded, but the policeman presents himself and reassures him. The wily policeman points to the opposite window, and, while the man glances in that direction, the treacherous officer deals him a heavy blow with the iron chisel. The man drops unconscious, and the other robs him of his keys. Opening the safe, he is about to examine the valuables, when, glancing out at the window, he sees the other thieves coming towards the house. Hastily putting the things back, he drags the unconscious jeweller into the safe, shuts and locks it, and placing the keys in his pocket darts out. The other burglars, fortunately, make their entry by the other window, and when they step inside, are astounded to notice signs of a previous attempt at the safe. While they are debating, the policeman steps into the room and threatens them One of the men, however, knocks his helmet off and discloses the false pal. They securely bind him with cords and take the keys from his pocket and going to the safe open it. The result is astonishing, for the jeweller having recovered, dashes out and presents a couple of pistols at their heads.

WALTURDAW Co. Ltd.

A False Friend, a dramatic from this company, deals with the somewhat hackneyed theme of the unfaithful wife, whose relations with a friend of her husband lead to the latter's death in the inevitable duel, and bring herself and her children to poverty. The ending, however, is somewhat novel. The repentant widow, who has taken up her quarters in an empty, half ruined house, attempts to beg enough money to furnish her children with food, but after a series of rebuffs determines to throw herself into the river. She is restrained by a military man wrapped in a cloak, who is, as it happens, though she does not recognise him, her old lover. The latter follows her to her miserable home and returning to his quarters determines to make what reparation he can and send her a cheque for £3,000 with a letter asking acceptance for the sake of the children. After a struggle the woman takes the money and the last scene shows her established in a comfortable home again, giving the children a substantial dinner.

A Hot Time in a Cold Quarter illustrates the misadventures of a party, who leaving his suburban home for business on a winter's morning, is almost smothered by a fall of snow from the roof, and when he ventures outside the gate becomes involved in a series of further misfortunes, being pushed over by a scavenger, pelted with snowballs by a band of youngsters, and dragged in the snow behind a sleigh which he attempts to board.

R. PRIEUR.

A Waterman on the Riviera --A man and his little son wish the wife and mother goodbye and proceeds to work. During the day two gentlemen ask refreshments at the house and one is struck by the beauty of the woman and resolves to win her affections, which he succeeds in doing, and we see her finally leaving her home, leaving a despairing letter. In following her with her gay companions we have some picturesque views of the boats at a carnival of flowers. The husband has seen his wife and determines to follow her against the pleadings of their little son, and tracking them after they have left their friends, wounds the lover and forces his wife to his home, where he remonstrates with her. Losing his temper completely, he strikes at her, but the boy, coming between, receives the blow. Throwing the woman out of the house, he goes back to his boy and after careful nursing, he is brought back to life. During his convalescence the mother pleads to see him. The child is pleased to see her again and after many pleadings from both, the man receives her back into his home—a sad but repentant woman. A touching story with splendid scenery.

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A False Friend

This is a strong, well acted, character subject in which a married woman is detected in an intrigue with one of her husband's friends, and by her conduct causes a duel in which her husband is killed. Deprived of their breadwinner, she and her children are soon reduced to poverty and compelled to take refuge in an unoccupied house, and finding it difficult to obtain food for the young ones, the woman decides upon suicide and is about to throw herself into the river, when she is restrained by her old lover, whom she fails to recognise. The latter follows her to her "home" and then returning to his chambers, sends a large sum of money to her, as some reparation for the mischief he has caused.

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fluid to the apron of his late servant and he has another supplied instantly. A cook bringing her wares, he picks two cabbages, places them in her arms, and applying the fluid, changes them into two babies. After many such adventures, he comes across a woman who has been attacked by hooligans and is in need of police protection. By the marvellous aid of the fluid two policemen are produced. A very laughable film.

AMATEUR CHIMNEY SWEEP.—Father, mother and daughter, are awaiting the arrival of the would-be fiancé, but are greatly disturbed by a smoking chimney. He enters, proposes, but is rejected by the parents, being thrown from the house. We next see him flirting with the wife of a chimney sweep. The husband, coming on the scene, he is introduced as a workman who is wanting a situation. He is engaged, and going to execute an order, some most laughable scenes occur, when he is obliged to carry the brushes. He finally lands in the room of his fiancée, who is horrified to see in the chimney sweep the man who proposed some time previously and who was rejected by her parents against her will.

THE WARWICK TRADING CO LTD

A film is being issued this week that is remarkable in many ways. I is educative in the highest degree, and is at the same time interesting and attractive to all classes. It tells no sensational story, nor is it padded with a lot of improbabilities. The title is The Bee's Eviction, and the pictures deal with an absolute fact. For some eleven years a portion of Exceat Farm, Seaford, Sussex, has been in possession of a swarm of bees, and the seven sections of pictures deal with their eviction, the pictures being taken during the actual operation. We are in the first scene shown a view of the farm house, the scaffolding is erected and the outer tiles removed from the wall, which dislodges the bees, who swarm all over the place in thousands. The honey comb is extracted, and the bees are finally hived afresh in a new home. The men occupied in the operations are seen extracting the stings from their hands. The honeycombs are in some instances over four feet long. The whole film is wonderfully interesting, and the photographic quality is most excellent and adds materially to the pleasure of witnessing the pictures.

VITAGRAPH COMPANY OF AMERICA

THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT TAFT, though somewhat belated in its arrival in this country, should be appreciated by audiences in England, where so much interest is felt in the personality of the new President. The Vitagraph Co. secured capital positions from which to film the processions and other celebrations of the occasion, so that the film is a good record of an interesting event.

A useful companion picture to the above issued by the same firm is A DAY IN WASHINGTON. The capital of the United States and its chief points of interest, including the Capitol, the Army and Navy Buildings, the U.S. Treasury, the Washington Monument, and the President's residence, the White House.

The well-known poem Mogg Megone by J. G. Whittier provides the story of THE TRAPPER'S FATAL PROMISE. Megone is the chief of a tribe of Indians who refuses all the offers of money, jewellery, etc., which Boyntham, a white trader, offers him in exchange for a strip of valuable land, but agrees to transfer it to the white man if the latter will give him his daughter for a wife. The trader consents and ignores the frenzied entreaties of the girl, who at last takes the only way out by killing the Indian as he lies in a drunken sleep—an action which leads to the destruction of her father's house by the Indian tribe.

AND HIS COAT CAME BACK is the story of a Judge who, having bought a coat which he fancies, is so much laughed at by his friends that he makes numerous, but always ineffectual, attempts to get rid of it. The janitor at the Court receives it as a gift, but his wife thinks so little of it she sends him back to the Judge with it. The coloured porter pawns it, and Moses, finding the Judge's name inside, believes it to have been stolen and returns it; and after other failures to get rid of it the Judge sends it to a foreign mission as a gift for a South Sea native. Six months later he pays an official visit to one of the islands and the chief desiring to honour him presents him with—his own old coat!

Pathe Freres.

THE ETERNAL ROMANCE.—A charming love story of the past century. One of Napoleon's brilliant young officers is quartered in the home of a pretty girl with whom he falls in love. After affecting scenes on the balcony by moonlight he attempts to abduct her, but the romance is crushed in the bud by a stern parent. The years pass and their children become lovers, The old ex-officer, however, pleads for the young lovers, and sitting next to the friend of long ago recalls the dreams of their young days. "Do you remember?" This softens her heart and she allows the young people to realise their golden dream.

THE DINNER OF JANUARY 9TH.—This is a capital comic series. Having had an excellent dinner at home on the 9th Mr. Durant suddenly remembers he has promised to dine with some friends the same day. The friends having forgotten about it, alter their calendar to the 10th. Mr. Durant thinking it must be correct apologies profoundly, but stays and shares their plain fare. He suddenly remembers he is booked to dine with another friend on the 10th and rushes off to them. They show considerable astonishment at his arrival. After much confusion, which provokes hilarious amusement, the explanation is forthcoming, still Mr. Durant is persuaded to stay and have another dinner, and on his arrival home, looking rather bad, his housekeeper out of pity brings him up a tray full of viands.

KIND-HEARTED MEN.—A thrilling incident following the French Revolution. A Royalist insurgent enlists in the Republican Army to save his wife and family from starvation. Hearing that his little son is very ill and that the mother would like to see him he has to decide between love and duty. He chooses love. The boy recovers, but the father is sentenced to death as a deserter. He is saved by his faithful wife, who arrives, post haste, at the scene of execution and throws herself between her husband and the squad of soldiers told off to shoot their comrade. The officer withdraws the command to execute.

AVIATION HAS ITS SURPRISES.—This is a rousing comic skit, replete with thrilling incidents. In order to prevent his daughter from meeting her sweetheart the father locks her in a room. Whilst wringing her hands in despair at the open window she spies an aeroplane. She persuades the owner to lend her the machine, and off she goes. Her father, realising the situation, drinks a glass of some mixture which inflates him like a balloon, and he follows his daughter in the air, dragging Willie—the sweetheart—with him by the coat collar. They fight in the air, which causes a sudden deflation, and both fall to the ground, but are caught in a rug. The daughter finds herself alone with a poor gentleman, and gives him a good thrashing as a solace to her feelings for losing her sweetheart and father at the same time.

NORDISK FILMS CO

An interesting selection of subjects are to be seen at Mr. Landmann's headquarters at Cecil Court this week. THE ART OF FENCING is an interesting film of short length, in which the resources of a graceful art are displayed by two very competent professionals, the various guards and strokes being clearly seen against a black background. STREET LIFE IN THE NORTH OF SIAM is an interesting addition to a novel and pretty series—the everyday life and amusements of the natives—the latter including cockfighting—being contrasted with the habits of the European population.

A CONVICT FOR LIFE tells the story of two brothers—one a farmer, the other a warder in a responsible position in a large prison. The farmer is condemned to penal servitude for life for killing a rich libertine who makes advances to his wife. He is confined in the prison in which his brother occupies a position. The latter has heard nothing of the conviction, and on finding his brother in one of the cells at once enables him to escape by giving him his own overcoat to

LATEST PRODUCTIONS.

Week's Current Films denoted by asterisk *

G. MELIES, PARIS.
J. F. Brockliss, 7 Rupert Court, W.

	Feet
Champagne Then Sham Visions	466

CRICKS & MARTIN,
London Rd., Mitcham

*My Word, if I Catch You Smoking	490
A Man Housemaid	550
Birth of a Big Gun	950
Getting Father's Consent	385
Biscuit Making	610

EDISON MFG. CO.,
100 Victoria Rd., N.W.

Star of Bethlehem	935
Canadian Water Carnival	985
Midnight Supper	530
Love is Blind	415
Uplifting of Mr. Barker	970
Coloured Stenographer	595

WILLIAMSON, DRESSLER & CO.,
27 Cecil Court, W.C.

*The Cattle Rustlers	960
*A Pair of Kids	200
Orange Crop in Palestine	460
The Kind Brigadier	460
The Lion's Bride	800
Tower of London	1125

HEPWORTH MFG. CO.,
17 Cecil Court, W.C.

*A Pair of Truants	400
*When Thieves Fall Out	450
The Wrong Coat	575
Miser and the Child	675
A Glimpse of the Far East	—
The Bailiff and the Dressmakers	—
Moonlight on the Thames	175
The Gypsy Child	400

CLARENDON FILM CO.,
Clarendon Rd., Croydon

The Invaders	—
Hard Times	390
The Crafty Usurper and the Young King	490
The Love of a Nautch Girl	480

THE CINES CO., Ltd.,
Arundel St., Strand, W.C.

The Day of Rest	436
Opening of Italian Parliament	426
Revengeful Groom	302
A Father's Heart	980
The Gay Author	324

THE WALTURDAW CO.,
10 Dane St., W.C.

*A Hot Time in a Cold Place	254
*A False Friend	660
Kinematographic Drama	370
Enthusiastic Handball Player	370
Haunted Chess Player	360
Rustic Flirt	535
Boat Race	350
His Only Quid	470

THE GAUMONT CO.,
Chrono House, Sherwood St.

Heavyweight Boxing Championship of England—Ian Hague v. Gunner Moir	425
Varsity Boat Race	252
England v. Scotland (Football)	390
Blind Man of Jerusalem	—
Sailor's Sweetheart	206
An Attack of Influenza	195

URBAN-ECLIPSE-RADIOS,
Urbanora House, Wardour St.

*Punchtown Steeplechase	—
*The Cup Final	—
*Gota Canal and Trollhatten Falls	255
*Logging in Norway	180
*Scenes in Hamburg	175
*On the Banks of the Panuco, Mexico	230
*Scenes around Piana	410
*Fatal Sneeze	—
*Perils of a Practical Joke	—
Panther Hunting in Java	450
Scenes on Board French Battleship	535

WALTER TYLER, Ltd.,
48/50 Waterloo Rd., S.E.

On Water-Ski	225
Tollfors, Sweden in Winter	230
Captains Honour	698
Varsity Boat Race	175
Shark Fishing in the North Sea	360
Gottenberg (Series 2)	540

THE ECLAIR CO.,
27 Rue Taitbout, Paris

Agents—WALTER TYLER, Ltd.

The Baffoon (No. 1 Art Series)	985
The Lame Woman	460
The Wandering Jew	760
Adventures of Morgan the Pirate No. 2 The Prophecy	760
Adventures of Morgan the Pirate (1)	795
The Double (Nick Carter)	650

WARWICK TRADING Co.
113-117 Charing Cross Road

Last Days of Pompeii	1250
Immortal Goose	—
Ragman's Bargain	410
Coffee Cultivation at Costa Rica	520

LE LION FILMS
J. F. Brockliss, 7 Rupert Court, W.

*Smart Wine Traveller	543
*A Tooth and a Slap in the Face	365
The Birdnester	512
The Other France	330
Little Dog Clipper	610
Bagneres to the Basque Coast	435

ITALA CO.,
Corso Casale, 91, Torino, Italy

Agents—WALTER TYLER, Ltd

*A Little Sherlock Holmes	760
*Foolshead (No 6) How He Paid His Debts	525
Count Ugolino (No. 1, Art Series)	785
Foolshead (No 5,—" Wrestling)	385
Pierrot's Good-Bye	220
Two Sergeants	945

R. W. PAUL,
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The Polite Parson	350
My Dolly	about 400
Domesticated Elephants	320
The Duped Othello	350

PRECISION FILM CO.,
Leytonstone.

Anarchy in England	305
The Price of Bread	540

VITAGRAPH COMPANY,
25 Cecil Court, W.C.

*And His Coat Came Back	515
*Trapper's Fatal Promise	265
*A Day in Washington	250
*Inaguration of President Taft	295
Saul and David	1000
The Poor Musician	574

NORDISK FILMS CO.,
18 Cecil Court, W.C.

*The Art of Fencing	279
*Street Life in Siam	361
*A Convict for Life	508
Attack on the Strong Room	820
Hard-Working Elephants	590
Danish Capital Under Snow	312

KINETO Ltd.,
48 Rupert St., W.

Varsity Boat Race	260
Britt v. Summers	1200

LUX FILMS,
R. Prieur, 68 Basinghall St.

*Amateur Chimney Sweep	488
*Waterman on the Riviera	649
*Miraculous Fluid	327
What Happened on a Seat	531
A Bad Brother	590
Consequences of a Bad Action	695

PATHE FRERES,
51-55 Charing Cross Road

*The Eternal Romance	790
*Ralph Benefits by People's Curiosity	297
*The Lime Industry	396
*Church Robbers	560
*Kind Hearted Men	314
*The Dinner of January 9th	708
*Married in Haste	528
*Aviation has its Surprises	528
*You Like the Poor	330
*Manœuvring the Life-Boat	428
*The Animals Friend	230

ANGLO-AMERICAN FILM CO.,
Voluntary Pl., Wansted, Essex

A Busy Night	140
Henpecks Revolt	390
Chicago May	980

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put over his prison garb, himself waiting in the cell until he is discovered by one of the warders and taken before the Governor. The last scene shows his execution in the prison yard. The film includes some pretty effects, as when the self-sacrificing brother in his cell has a vision of the reunited husband and wife, but the ending is somewhat far fetched—more particularly when it is remembered that the official who is so summarily dealt with is represented as an English warder.

URBAN ECLIPSE-RADIOS

A busy week-end has been spent by this firm preparing topical films. By dint of all night work on Saturday and continuing up to 2 o'clock on Sunday some fifty prints of the Cup Final were despatched to customers well in time for Monday's shows. Another topical event which Urban's have filmed is the famous Punchestown Steeplechase, and this subject should be found useful by Irish showmen.

In the travel section Urban's have, as usual, a wealth of films to select from, the subjects dealt with ranging from a panoramic view of THE GOTA CANAL AND TROLLHATTEN WATERFALLS, Sweden, to photographs of such contrasting places as Hamburg and the Panuco River. LOGGING IN NORWAY is another interesting subject in this class, the operation of hauling the logs to the river and the subsequent operation of floating them to the sea being shown in a beautiful setting of typical mountain scenery.

THE PERILS OF A PRACTICAL JOKE.—A doctor advises a patient to take a holiday. At the railway station the man receives a send-off by three friends. The latter adjourn to a café and decide to play a joke upon their chum. A message is written on a postcard: "Dear Arthur—The dog that has been biting us was, I believe, hydrophobic. I had an injection of serum, and am now safe; take care of yourself.—Yours truly, James." The man arrives at his destination still very ill. Although not suffering from hydrophobia his behaviour is very peculiar. The postcard is duly delivered, the manager reads it, and is horrified. The police and an expert are called in, and the man is secured and removed. The expert makes enquiries in the town where the man has come from, finds there has been no case of hydrophobia, and that the postcard was sent as a joke. He telegraphs to this effect to the hotel manager, and the manager hurries off to the Pasteur Institute to explain. The man, maanwhile, is depicted being held down, suffering many indignities and undergoing an injection and shower-bath. When the manager arrives it is too late—the victim is raving mad!

A FATAL SNEEZE.—A man who occupies a seat in the park takes a pinch of snuff, lights a cigarette and reads his paper; shortly he puts the cigarette down and sleeps. Two boys arrive; one steals the cigarette and the other knocks the sleeper's hat in before they make off. The man wakes and looks for the cause of the assault and takes more snuff. He departs, sneezing, and his first victim is blown off a seat. A group of children, playing, are blown off their feet. An approaching cyclist is blown backwards, zig-zag fashion. A party of men are enjoying a hand at cards; a sneeze topples over the table. In the main thoroughfare a tram is blown backwards, and the man sneezes passing over a bridge; as a consequence it rocks violently. He then wanders into the park again and this time such a violent sneeze is emitted that it causes the man's own destruction—he vanishes in a puff of smoke.

West's Pictures at Bournemouth.—The third week of the eighteenth season started with almost an entire change of programme. The new films include The Persecution of Huguenots under Louis XIV., a fine series of Alpine Sports, and a whole host of the latest comedy subjects. Meanwhile, The Invasion and Lighthouse Keeper, owing to their popularity, are kept in the bill. As to the interludes, they are, as usual, most adequately filled by Miss Leila Waddell, the Australian violiniste, who now makes her first appearance in this country, and proves a most charming and talented artiste; and Mr. Fred Hudson, the popular operatic baritone, late principal of J. W. Turner's and the leading English opera companies. His rendition of the great arias are received with enthusiasm.

Our Correspondents and Films, Ltd.

Referring to a communication we have received from a correspondent as to Films, Ltd., as our correspondent writes under a non de plume and does not wish his name published, we think it would be unfair to publish his letter containing a number of questions which convey reflections on the firm named while he remains concealed from them. We have, however, made enquiries, and are assured the statements in their letter, already published, are correct, and we see no object in pursuing the matter further.

A New Slide Carrier.

Mr. Robert Rigby, the scientific instrument maker of Hatton Garden and Birmingham, is placing on the market a new slide carrier. It is made of brass three-eighths of an inch thick, and by means of an ingenious arrangement of springs it will carry at one time American, French and English slides. It is easy to place in position, and its simplicity and rapidity of action will commend it to all operators. Its construction is so simple that it could be fed in the dark, and it has the distinct advantage of being cheap as well as durable.

Bioscope and—Bunkum!

After a bioscope show had visited Rainham, Essex, there was much drinking outside a local public-house, followed by quarrelling and fisticuffs. Albert Hume, a labourer, was wounded in the face and died from lockjaw. At the inquest, when the verdict was "Death from tetanus," Mr. Baxter, the East London coroner, made the extraordinary remark that "If this is what goes on in the village of Rainham when the bioscope appears, it is advisable that it shouldn't go there too often." Is it permissible to ask Mr. Baxter and the evening newspaper which heads its report "Bloodshed and Bioscope" by what process of reasoning they lay the blame for a regrettable accident at the door of the bioscope? Has rowdyism previously been altogether unknown in Rainham, and is there any evidence to show that it was evoked by the bioscope show?

A Kinematograph Abduction which Proved too Realstic.

The series of abductions of the children of wealthy Americans have, says the New York correspondent of the *Daily News*, roused the public to such a state of suspicion that some awkward results are being experienced by people whose relations with children are quite innocent of fraudulent intent. A kinematograph firm, anxious to meet the topical interest in abductions, elaborately arranged for an abduction scene to be carried out close to the railway in New Jersey. Everything was going well when some railway gangers came along the line on a trolley and seeing a girl being dragged from a carriage by three men they jumped to the conclusion that they had happened on another sensational blackmailing enterprise. Leaping oft their trolley they rushed to the assistance of the supposed distressed damsel, armed with their pickaxes, and laid about them with such goodwill that all the kinematograph operators concerned have had to go into hospital for repairs.

Picture Hall, West Hartlepool.—Black's Life Motion Pictures here for the week are The Fear (Pathé Film d'Art), The Curtain Pole, Trainer's Revenge, and Under Northern Skies. "My Rainbow" is the Cinephone selection. Mr. A. W. Stephenson, the descriptive baritone, has had a very gratifying reception for his song "Redwing."

It will pay you not to miss a single copy.

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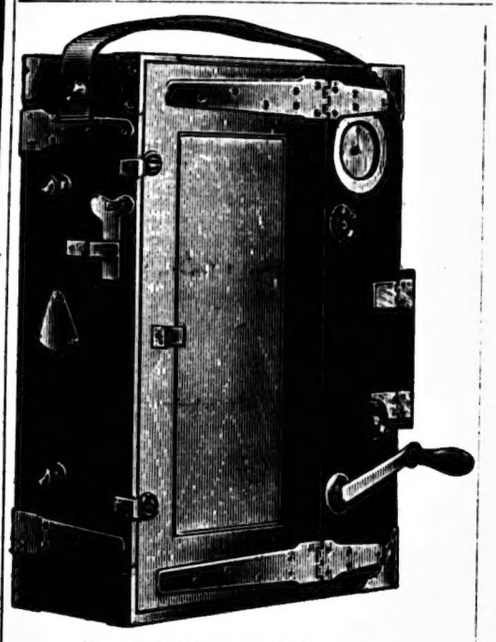

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President Root's Visit to Mexico	...	084
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